# The Nation

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## The Week

THE vote in the House on last Thursday appears to have doomed the press censorship in anything like the form desired by the Administration. A good case was ruined by its advocates. To a reasonable censoring of newspapers, in war-time, there is no objection. But the project got to be so identified with all kinds of bureaucratic schemes to choke off discussion and to decide what Americans should talk and write about that Congress conceived a disgust with the whole affair. Even if nothing more is done, however, the Government will not be left powerless to proceed against reckless or disreputable newspapers. As was pointed out in the debate, there are not only provisions of general law that can be invoked, but sections of the Espionage bill itself which could be utilized. Any editor wilfully giving aid and comfort to the enemy can be condignly punished, censorship or no censorship. As the matter now stands, the press is put upon its honor. If there is to be no censor to dictate, duty and patriotism must dictate. All decent newspapers must be daily on their guard lest they print military news that ought to be suppressed. Every reasonable request that comes from the Government to omit mention of any special bit of information should be complied with unquestioningly. The press is not to be compelled to submit to a forced control. Let it show that it is willing to do everything necessary unforced. The failure of the censorship plan really constitutes an appeal to the good faith of all the honorable men in the newspaper calling.

THE Gore bill, which passed the House as the first Lever bill, and went through the Senate Saturday without a dissenting vote, is primarily a bill to stimulate the production of food. It carries for this purpose $11,000,000, part of which is to be used in the emergency purchase of seed to be distributed at cost, and part in a census of the foodstuffs of the nation. The measure is to be supplemented by the second Lever bill, which is of much greater importance in that it vests in the President—who will act through the Departments and Mr. Hoover—powers of as comprehensive a nature as have been held in Great Britain by the Food Controller. In the shape in which it was introduced, it would give the Executive power to proceed against persons who waste food, power to fix the composition of flours, and power to limit the conversion of food materials into liquor; in addition, and above all, it would give him control over the whole distribution of foods by enabling him to seize factories or plants engaged in the manufacture or preparation of foods, to take over necessaries and deal in them, to fix minimum and maximum prices, and to break up hoarding and all harmful speculative practices. This drastic second bill may be modified in some of its provisions, and if passed intact, will be with the understanding that the almost dictatorial powers it carries are to be exercised only in emergencies. But one of its chief objects, the stoppage of food gambling, is already guaranteed—though by moderate means—by the Senate's incorporation in the Gore bill Saturday of the Nelson amendment empowering the President to stop trading in grain futures at discretion.

IT is no small achievement to have brought together, as the Academy of Political Science did at Long Beach, diplomats, political students, and newspaper men, to discuss a better organization of the world. In perhaps no other forum just now could men and women so freely speak of international relations as at the Conference on Foreign Relations of the United States. And the efforts of Prof. Stephen P. Duggan, director of the Conference, and his associates brought about an attendance worthy of the opportunity. Professors and journalists were present from all parts of the country, all the details of their transportation having been arranged for them. Ambassadors from South American republics were thus enabled to exchange views with editors from Texas, and liberal opinion as it matures in the minds of such leaders as Jane Addams, S. K. Ratcliffe, and Frederic C. Howe, to find expression and an echo throughout the country. If any criticism were to be made, it would be of the too comprehensive scope of the plan rather than of the addresses themselves. So wide was the range of discussion that no important phase of the relations of the United States to the world was not at least touched on. The effect of this was to narrow the time for discussion of the addresses to such an extent that many of those who might have made valuable contributions were perforce silent. The Conference might be repeated, even perhaps made an annual affair for stimulating our imagination as citizens of the world.

THUS far, the English Government has shown good faith in dealing with the Irish Convention. In it the basis of representation is to be broad. The nominees of the Crown include Sir Horace Plunkett, clear-eyed and honest. It is reported that the Government will soon amnesty the Irish political prisoners, so that any of them can be sent to the Convention, if desired. It is such cumulative evidence of intention to deal squarely with the Convention that is breaking down open opposition to it in Ireland. Of course, the Nationalists were for it from the first; and now the South Unionists have agreed, rather grudgingly, to send delegates. The Ulster Unionists may be counted upon to do the same. Even the Sinn Feiners are not holding out so stiffly as they were. They can go to the Convention and talk about the independence of Ireland, if they can get anybody to listen to them. In fact, Irishmen of all shades of opinion are simply bound to utilize the Convention in order to show if it is possible for them to work out a plan of self-government for Ireland. If they succeed, the British Government stands pledged to approve their work. If they fail—if they break up in a hopeless row—they will have dealt a heavy blow to the Irish cause, both at home and abroad.

IN the fourteen weekly reports issued by the British Admiralty since it began recording submarine losses by the number of ships with the week ending February 25, the loss in ships over 1,600 tons has risen on only three occasions

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above a fixed norm. These were the last two weeks in April and the first week in May, when the average daily destruction was five ships. For the other eleven weeks the rate has never been less than two ships a day, and never has quite reached three ships a day. No less than five weeks show a record of eighteen ships; two other weeks show nineteen and seventeen ships. The number eighteen would thus represent almost the permanent balance between the German effort and the British defence. Eighteen ships it has been for the last three weeks in succession. The longer days of summer and the quieter seas which the Germans counted upon to facilitate their torpedo warfare have also made the work of patrol easier for the British destroyers and permitted the use of the smaller U-boat chasers. One obvious conclusion is that the predictions of submarine effectiveness based on Germany's increasing number of U-boats cannot be stretched too far. If it be true that Germany began her new campaign in February with more than 200 submarines, and if we count in the Austrian boats, it would appear that every Teutonic submarine has sunk just one English vessel of over 1,600 tons in the course of four months. Even the rumored building of three submarines a week would have to continue for many weeks before making itself felt.

IT is impossible to regard the "autonomous republic" at Kronstadt, accompanied by the recommendation for all Russia of the ideal of federated communism, as anything but the desperate assertion of anarchist ideas in face of the growing sobriety of the bulk of democratic revolutionary leaders. Had the Central Council of Workers and Soldiers at Petrograd remained in opposition to the Provisional Government, there would have been no uprising like that which succeeded at Kronstadt or failed the other day at Sebastopol. But precisely because the responsible leaders of the Council have become part of the Provisional Government, and because the majority of the Council is coöperating with the Government, there is nothing left for the lunatic fringe of the revolutionary movement but isolated insurrection. It is not unlikely that if persuasion fail the Petrograd Council will prefer to wait till the convocation of the All-Russian Congress of Workers' and Soldiers' Delegates rather than bring force to bear upon the secessionists. But when that Congress meets we may look forward to the definite disposal of the communist anarchists. It is not even a question whether a new order can be established in Russia on the basis of the Commune. Conceding that the scheme might be workable in normal times it would be suicide for the revolutionary movement to allow the dismemberment of the nation in the face of a foreign enemy and the peril of internal reaction.

TISZA'S successor as Hungarian Premier is the Liberal statesman, Count Julius Andrássy. Because it is impossible entirely to separate internal political conditions within the Central Powers from their war policy, the advent of Andrássy, an advocate of a democratic franchise for the Magyar people and fair treatment for the non-Magyar nationalities in Hungary, is bound to intensify the trend towards the pressure which Austria has been exercising on Berlin through Count Czernin's programme of peace without annexations and indemnities. While the Pan-Germanists are calling upon Hindenburg to oust the recreant Bethman-Hollweg and commit the empire to Junkerdom and foreign conquest, the second partner in the Teutonic alliance has committed itself to quite the opposite policy. The effect in Germany is obviously to strengthen Bethmann-Hollweg's position as against the Pan-German fanatics and at the same time to make it more difficult for him to maintain his refusal to frame a definite statement of Germany's terms of peace.

IT is welcome news that the food and medical supplies held for more than six months in Alexandria, and intended for the relief of starving Syria, are at last to be sent to their destination. Every sort of international obstacle has been placed in the way. In the first place, the Entente Powers, then the Turks themselves, whose own citizens it was intended to relieve, then the German and Austrian submarine campaign, then the breach of relations and war interposed. In the meantime Syria was starving; in the Lebanon alone hunger has during the last year claimed more than one hundred thousand victims. Cholera and typhus stalk through the land unchecked. It is to be hoped that the present news is not a false alarm, like so much else in this connection. And if the Spanish Government takes the risk of embarking these supplies on its own ships and facing the German submarines in the Mediterranean, and finally manages to keep the food and medicines out of the Turkish Government's hands, and get them to the Syrians, it will have accomplished a work to which the recognition of the whole civilized world will be due. The supplies at Alexandria alone are sufficient to keep what is left of Syria alive for almost two months.

LAURIER'S persistent silence as to whether he and the Liberals would support Borden's conscription plans has been as good as a demand that he should be paid his price for doing so; and the demand was answered when last Friday Borden called upon him and asked him to help form a Coalition Ministry. The step was the only practicable one open to Borden, and is both patriotic and politically expedient. The country has displayed a natural hesitation and division in facing conscription, and it seems impossible to continue the Government programme unless a coalition unites the Dominion behind it, or a general election shows a clear majority for the Conservatives on the issue. This alternative of a general election Borden is bound to employ every means to avoid. In 1911 Borden used Quebec Nationalism, which distrusted Laurier's Imperialistic naval policy, to drive Laurier from office. Now it would be possible for Laurier, using Nationalist opposition to the draft, to drive Borden from control. If Laurier consents to a Coalition Ministry supporting a conscription policy, it is not likely that the Nationalists will be able to do anything in even the most recalcitrant French-Canadian districts to obstruct the measure.

EVER since the President's war message, various statesmen, with an air of modest originality, have been telling the world that democracy means the freedom to do as we should, not as we would. In applauding the epigram one must be careful. It owns the birthplace of an enemy. It is generically German. Goethe in one of his earlier plays preached it whole-heartedly to his countrymen, and they liked it very much. In "Torquato Tasso" the poet, dreaming of an Eden, where he can do exactly as he pleases, describes it yearningly to his princess friend; there, he says,

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"erlaubt ist was gefällt." The princess, social-minded and somewhat shocked, advises him to consult noble ladies if he would know propriety, and adds that in the Desired Land we shall do as we ought, not as we please, for there "erlaubt ist was geziemt." Tasso subsides, though unconvinced. It has been that way with Prussia. Agreeing that we should all be free only to do as we ought, she speeded up the Krupp works. Bespeaking the attention of the universe to Lessing's breadth of moral inclusion, she poured narrowness and falsity into the minds of her children, through the Government-inspired teachings of her professors.

THE war will mean a great increase in the number of Federal civil employees. The Civil Service Reform League, meeting at Atlantic City, placed this increase at 100,000 within a short time; and whether the number will be so large or not, it was well advised in presenting a plan for strengthening the classified civil service to perform its new tasks. In the fiscal year ending June 30, 1912, the number of persons appointed to Government posts through examinations was only 33,240—and this included about 12,000 navy yard employees. To handle several times that number of appointments the Civil Service Commission will need larger facilities, and the League asks that $100,000 be immediately appropriated to it. It suggests also the creation of a personnel board or officer to work in coöperation with the Council of National Defence, so apportioning men as to avoid the competition of departments for the same classes of individuals. This proposed board—a combination of a Priority Board in application to man power and an agency to utilize the principle of selective conscription in the civil service—is important, and we may certainly expect to see it supplied in some form.

IN vetoing the Brown bill to remove the restrictions upon the labor of women and children during the war, Gov. Whitman might have cited the experience of England. There it has been found not to pay to take this tempting short-cut to increased output. But even if the reverse were the fact, the proposal was clearly one which ought to be adopted as late as possible rather than rushed into at the outset. Its rejection argues no indifference to the demands of the time. On the contrary, the Governor rests his veto upon the consideration that the attainment of our greatest efficiency in preparing for and prosecuting the war requires that we show no desire to set aside the standards so slowly erected for the protection of those who work with their hands. Especially must we guard against the feeling that war's burdens are being imposed most heavily upon the shoulders of those least able to bear them. Gov. Whitman puts the case in a nutshell when he says:

> Voluntary and enthusiastic service on the part of our wage-earners will result in a volume of effort and support of far greater benefit to the State than can be derived by forced labor under conditions and during hours now prohibited by law.

MOB outbreaks against the negroes in East St. Louis were the more unjustifiable in that, fifteen minutes before, the Mayor had addressed the labor leaders of the city, promising that the coming of black workmen would be stopped. He also hinted that steps would be taken by deportation to relieve the situation. Deportation of the criminal elements could legally and justly have been effected, and the Mayor declared that among the 6,000 negroes who had arrived since January 1, "the majority of the lowest type from Mississippi," there were many criminals. But the situation could have been dealt with without rousing the spirit of riot. The incident should warn all employers who import negroes in large numbers that they have a distinct duty in the supervision and guidance of the men whom they bring into a new industrial community.

INSTANCES of injustice to the Indian, actual or threatened, are so frequent that it is a pleasure to record one of opposite character. After twenty years the State of Florida has gone so far towards righting a wrong as to pass "a bill to be entitled an act providing for and setting aside certain lands to the Seminole Indians as a reservation, providing for the trustees, in whom the title to said lands shall be vested for the use and benefit of said Indians." A tribe which in 1821 was powerful, less than a century later was in abject poverty, without a foot of land which it could call its own. One after another, individuals and organizations rallied to its help, and in 1899 succeeded in getting through the Legislature a bill granting the Seminoles a reservation of about 835,000 acres. But between the time when the reservation was selected and the meeting of the Legislature, speculators got hold of the tract and nothing was left for the Indians. Similar attempts in succeeding Legislatures were equally futile, until the one of 1917, which has set aside about 100,000 acres for them. Only 5 per cent. of the tract is tillable, and none of it is in the drainage district, but it is so difficult to obtain justice for the red man that this action must be hailed as a triumph. It is pleasant to know that the woman who began the long fight, Mrs. Minnie Moore Wilson, has lived to receive from a Governor the pen with which he signed the bill which has crowned her efforts.

## American Socialists and Others

FACTIONAL cleavage, formal secessions, and expulsions for heresy are the order of the day in the Socialist party in this country. This state of affairs differs in marked degree from conditions that prevail among the Socialists of the belligerent nations of Europe. There are majority and minority Socialists in Germany and Austria, in France, in England, and in Russia, with the majorities regularly in favor of the national war programme and the minorities in favor of the quickest attainable international reconciliation. The position is reversed in this country, where the majority Socialists are the internationalists and the minority Socialists are firm for a vigorous prosecution of the war to victory.

But there is still another and a very important difference as between Socialists in this country and in Europe. Among the latter, whether of the majority or the minority, there has been no condemnation of the war in itself. In Russia, and only for a short while, there was a small but clamorous faction which wanted the war stopped regardless. That faction has disappeared. At Petrograd it is now agreed that the war ought to stop if the German Government subscribes to the principle of no annexations and no indemnities, but failing that, it is right and necessary that the war should go on. "Wilhelm" is still the arch enemy of the Russian revolution. So in France there are differences of opinion as to how far Socialists ought to go to arrive at

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an understanding with their enemies; but there is no difference of opinion that unless the German Government meets certain conditions the war must go on. So in Germany there are differences between the Scheidemann-David-Suedekum majority and the Bernstein-Ledebour-Haase minority, but both agree that in the face of Allied threats against the existence of the Empire the war must go on.

It remained for the Socialist party in America, speaking through the majority of its delegates at the recent St. Louis Convention, to condemn the war outright by characterizing it as a crime against humanity. It would be more proper to speak of the official Socialists rather than the majority. For though the anti-war resolution was adopted by the Convention, it has not yet received the necessary approval of the party plébiscite which will be called upon to decide between the majority report and a minority report supported by one-third of the members of the Convention. The rebellion against the official leaders of the party has developed to such proportions that ratification of the anti-war resolution is by no means assured.

*Badly torn apart though the Socialist party is to-day, it* would be altogether wrong to speak of Socialist prestige as on the decline. Mr. Spargo, in submitting his resignation from the party organization, makes the distinction between the Socialist party and Socialism, bitterly characterizing one as the most formidable enemy of the other. We need not go so far as that. We may look upon the present conflict as a struggle for control, and take the very fact of conflict as a sign of returning Socialist vitality. Socialism is now emerging from the pall that settled upon it at the outbreak of the war. It was the custom then to speak of the bankruptcy of international Socialism, and certainly there was enough excuse for such a charge when one compared its ante-bellum pretensions with its utter failure to prevent the war or even to affect its course. Socialists had exaggerated their political power and underestimated their own susceptibility to primitive national ties. Dr. Frank, one of the rising stars of German Socialism, fell in battle for the Kaiser. Gustave Hervé, arch enemy of nationalism, rallied to the flag of invaded France, and Jules Guesde joined the Cabinet. Vandervelde entered the Belgian Cabinet. Russian Socialists returned to Petrograd to fight for the Czar. And Scheidemann and Suedekum placed their diplomatic talents at the disposal of the Government, went on a mission to the Socialists of Italy—and failed. In the Italian war Cabinet Bissolati was an outstanding figure.

What we are witnessing now is the effort to free Socialism from bankruptcy. Its prestige is returning, partly as a result of the victory of revolutionary Socialism in Russia, partly as a natural outcome of a war prolonging itself to the limits of human endurance. The German Socialists may or may not be the Kaiser's catspaw. The very fact that the Kaiser might be employing them as his tools is a tribute to their reviving influence as an international force. It is plain why Socialists the world over should be eager to concern themselves with the question of peace. It is not only the end of the war they have in mind, but the prospects of Socialism after the war. It is party spirit, but it is a very human motive. Just as trade interests and educational interests are even now working on the assumption that there will be a world after the war, Socialists, and especially Socialist majority leaders, must keep the future in mind. Obviously, the one way to prepare for the future, the one way to atone for the failure of three years ago, is for Socialism to put itself on record as the first to strive for the restoration of internationalism.

This purpose, as much as the specific question of peace, is behind the movement towards a reunion of Socialists, whether at Stockholm or at Petrograd. It is an issue upon which majority and minority Socialists in Europe are coming to agreement. This purpose is probably foremost with Mr. Hillquit and his associates. But their tactics have been unfortunate. Had the St. Louis Convention been more appreciative of the forces that have driven America into the war, there would have been no such outcry among Socialists against Mr. Hillquit's journey to Stockholm.

# Ruining German Trade

ONE of the resolutions adopted the other day by German Socialists called for an early peace on the ground that it was necessary in order to restore Germany's shattered industrial system. In line with this is the bitter complaint in the *Vossische Zeitung* by a high authority on German over-seas trade, Emil Zimmermann. He was referring to Brazil's breaking off of relations with Germany, and to the intimation from the German Government that this amounted to nothing. On the contrary, affirms Herr Zimmermann, it is one sign more of the cumulative destruction of Germany's foreign commerce, which not even "the ablest German merchants" will be able to restore if the embroiling of Germany with all the world continues. This expert on the markets which Germany has had beyond the sea goes on:

> The United States, China, and Brazil counted us among their best clients; but they know only too well that, while we cannot do without their raw materials, they themselves can for the most part do quite well without manufactured goods formerly imported from Germany.

The same topic is dealt with by a writer in the May *Fortnightly*. He recounts the oft-told story of the wonderful industrial expansion of modern Germany. Special emphasis is laid upon the hopes which Germans had entertained of recouping their losses of trade in Europe by great gains in the United States, in South America, and in China. "The infinite possibilities of the rapidly growing South American states and of the vast Chinese market which, as yet, has scarcely been tapped, were frequently pointed out by leading German business men and writers." And Germany had sought, by the establishment of banks and of lines of steamers, to perfect her commercial organization to the West and to the South and in the Far East. Notwithstanding the war in Europe, the eyes of industrialists and exporters in Germany might still be turned to the Americas and to the Orient. But the events of the past few weeks have dealt "a terrible, and possibly a fatal, blow" to the interests of German commerce, shipping, banking, and manufacturing. By its fateful submarine policy, the Government has cut off great markets which can be successfully reëntered by Germans only after a long time and by dint of unremitting effort. This is the truth which is in the minds of German Socialists. It is also this truth which prompts the reproaches and points the alarm of Herr Zimmermann.

It is truly a dark prospect which those engaged in German foreign trade now have to face. The splendid German

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mercantile marine is reduced to but a shadow of its former self. It will require years to get back to anything like its former size. Meanwhile, markets are in the hands of others; old financial connections with Germany are broken and new ones formed with other countries; rival industries are springing up in provinces where Germany was formerly supreme. Moreover, it must be penetrating to even German self-satisfaction that the future problem, after peace comes, will be not merely to build ships and make goods. There will be a world-wide dislike and an enduring prejudice to be overcome. The punishment of the Prussian military party will fall upon Germans for years to come. Every commercial traveller from Germany will long be looked upon askance; every bank and importing house and branch of manufacture set up by Germans in foreign countries will have to struggle hard to recover, after years, the good will which the German Government threw away in a day. In the field of over-seas trade, Germany will reap as she has sown. Having, by the lawless and barbarous course of her Government, made herself an outcast among the nations, she will find the task of winning back her commercial prestige, to say nothing of her moral, long and galling.

Prussian militarism, which needlessly brought on the great war, has many crimes to answer for, but also many stupidities. Never was there such a blunder as that which hazarded the industrial future of Germany on one throw of the war-dice. Everything seemed to be coming the way of German commerce. German science, German organization, carried into trade, promised to have the world at their feet. Why rush an invasion of Belgium when a few years more would have seen the economic penetration of Belgium by Germany almost complete? So in other lands German finance and commerce were marching on to new triumphs. Yet all was cut down in one mad moment of military ambition. German arms were, of course, to win new areas for German manufacture and trade; but, instead, the reckoning was so out that they have cut off nearly all the old ones. It was a ghastly mistake of statesmen militarily obsessed.

# Common-Sense and War Finance

LAST week the newspapers reported the president of a New York trust company as saying, in a formal speech to a trade convention: "We must deliberately create an inflation, in order to make it possible for the national Government to finance the war." We do not know whether the statement was correctly reported; nor, if it was, do we know what the speaker meant by "inflation." But we do know how the general public interprets such assertions, and we are certain that their effect is extremely mischievous.

This easy-going use of such expressions in serious speeches, interviews, or writings is quite on a par with the loose and reckless manner in which the Washington press dispatches have been of late discussing pretty nearly everything in the Government's financial plans. Few aspects of the present situation strike the thoughtful observer more singularly than the fact that, at the moment when our Government is suddenly confronted with some of the mightiest financial problems in its history, they should be discussed in public speeches and dispatches as if the United States had neither a financial past nor a financial future, and as if there were nothing to learn from the war finance of the past three years in Europe. Whatever the psychology of all this may be, we think it is time to inject a little commonsense into the discussion.

No term in all finance is employed more loosely and vaguely than the word "inflation." To one man, it may simply mean expansion of credit because of abnormally active trade; to another, it may only suggest such increase in the country's gold supply, and therefore in its bank reserves, as occurred last year, when belligerent Europe was sending gold to pay for its purchases of war material. But the traditional meaning of the term unquestionably is such excessive increase in the paper money as shall lead to depreciation of the currency and an advance in prices on top of the advance caused by the war itself.

Inflation of the last-named sort has unquestionably occurred in the nations of continental Europe; but, unless through complete mismanagement by our Government and our banks, it should be out of the question in this country. The United States entered this war with its currency, its credit arrangements, and its banking system in the soundest condition of very many years. Its gold supply, on hand as a reserve for bank operations and currency issues, was $1,200,000,000 greater than when Europe went to war—an increase, according to the Government figures, of no less than 60 per cent.; and the increase has continued. At the Federal Reserve Banks, cash reserve against all liabilities arising from credit operations, after allowing the actually required reserve against outstanding notes, was 76 per cent., whereas only 35 per cent. is required by law.

Every intelligent observer knew that this strong position was a guarantee against recourse to any such hasty and demoralizing expedients as were adopted by every belligerent European state in 1914. It abundantly explained why, when we entered war ourselves, there was no financial commotion in our markets; no "moratorium"; no closing of the Stock Exchanges; no embargo on all other new investments except the war loans. If the easy-going talk about "inflation" simply means the proper utilization of these immense reserved resources of credit, to support home finance pending the Government's large requisitions, then all that we can say is that a better word might be used to describe the operation. That a great expansion of credit will occur in connection with the war loans is inevitable. The machinery of credit is abundantly able to sustain it. But it must not be forgotten that even the machinery of the Federal Reserve system may be misused.

We have spoken of the character of the Washington press dispatches on these matters, and we are sorry to say that nothing more reckless than these outgivings on the one hand, or more crude on the other, has come to our attention in many years. Had they expressed the Government's serious ideas, one might have imagined Bryan in the Treasury. We have been gravely informed (not as conjecture, but as fact) that the shipbuilding programme would necessitate cancellation of all private contracts placed with the country's steel mills, thereby completely disorganizing private business; that the Board of Federal War Expenditure would disburse $10,000,000,000 in a year, thereby nearly trebling all the recent munitions expenditures made by our allies in this country; that the Government was about to "regulate" gold exports from the United States, thereby at once reducing our markets to the discredited international position into which the Continental markets have been forced.

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Last week these extraordinary Washington deliverances told us that "officials have in mind the enforcement of a sweeping programme," whose salient feature is "the virtual closing of American money markets to foreign Government bond issues throughout the war"; this, let it be observed, in order "to enable the United States to retain its present supremacy in international finance." To whose mental processes we are indebted for that undoubtedly original picture of cause and effect, of the logical means to achieve a given end, we cannot guess.

No one can say to-day what economic changes will be brought about in this country, if the war is long continued. We may conceivably have to surrender, once for all, the position of war-time central market of the world which we were lately prizing; to shut our markets against all new foreign securities would certainly have that result with the United States, as it did in 1915 with England. It is not impossible, looking forward to conditions in a protracted war, that we may be driven unwillingly into real "inflation." All this is at least conceivable. Our own belief is that it need not happen, and that it will not happen if sound judgment and intelligent financial administration are applied to use of our huge available resources and our present scientific machinery of credit. But to promote so highly desirable an end, one of the first steps, in our opinion, should be to put a stop to this mischievous nonsense which is being sent out from Washington and elsewhere.

# The Battle of the Classics

IF anybody supposed that the Conference on Classical Studies in Liberal Education at Princeton, on Saturday, was made up of a lot of despairing professors, fighting in the last bastion of their creed, he was very much mistaken. A glance at the programme, a survey of the speakers, the specimen blasts of the trumpet before the battle, show that we have to do with an aggressive body prepared to move immediately upon the enemy's works. And the men who organized the meetings were no set of mere gerund-grinders, with cobwebs on their brains. These children of light could show a thing or two to their cousins of this world in the matter of skilful planning. They passed by the Dryasdusts who specialize in minusculæ and pre-Doric inscriptions, and cast about for men with a plentiful stock of *vis vivida*, which we take to mean "live wires." And with the crafty aim of seeming to make even their opponents fight on their side, they reached out and gathered in speakers eminent in science, in medicine, in engineering, even in business. You say that we live down among the dead men, do you, teaching languages that long ago lost all relation to the modern world? Well, just cast your eye at these most modern of the moderns coming to our support. It was good strategy, whatever else it may have been.

The Conference issued a little advance brochure. This contains "Six Opinions" favoring classical training—four of them by Presidents of the United States; also some questions and answers, and a section on "Misleading Statistics." In the last we have, as it were, the Roman short-sword thrust against the buckler of the large-limbed Goth. Latin has been pitied or despised as a vanishing study. Well, what have you got to say to the figures of the United States Commissioner of Education, showing that Latin has steadily gained in the secondary schools of this country? In 1915 it had 503,985 pupils in those schools—three times as many as your boasted physics, five times as many as chemistry. Only English, history, and algebra led Latin. Then there is a gallant statistical attack upon the champions of the modern school who decry the efficiency of the teaching of Latin. It is shown that the assailants of the classics, who pride themselves on their skill in the use of figures, have mishandled and misinterpreted the figures they use. And finally we have the records and ratings of classically trained students, as compared with those who had no Latin or Greek, with the conclusion that the former show a "superiority" ranging from 38 to 163 per cent.

That this is a complete demonstration, all ardent friends of the classics—of whom we would be numbered *pars minima*—would like to believe; but, alas, there is a difficulty. Is it not necessary to know more, to start with, about the antecedents, the social and cultural background, of these "superior" students? May it not be that they take Latin because they are superior, instead of being superior because they have taken Latin? A similar course of reasoning might undertake to show that playing football developed big-muscled boys, whereas the fact might be that only boys with big muscles went in for football. *Ne quid nimis* is not a bad rule to remember when it comes to claiming too much for Latin.

Study the classics for a good style, we are exhorted, and we agree. Yet, again, it is possible to argue in this way more strongly than the living facts warrant. Take the very "Six Opinions" published by the Conference. One of them is by Mr. Taft, who believes that classical training is "most helpful in the matter of correct English style." But we all know what Mr. Taft's own style is—orderly but ponderous, clear but tedious, a good law style. After him comes Mr. Roosevelt, with the usual effect of pouring a flood of words out of a bottle with too small a neck. President Wilson, in his "Opinion," speaks of literature, not of style, yet he is the only one of the lot who shows a nice sense for style. "There is no sanity comparable with that which is schooled in the thoughts that will keep." "We should have scant capital to trade on were we to throw away the wisdom we have inherited." "You do not know the world until you know the men who have possessed it and tried its wares before you were ever given your brief run upon it." Is that sort of writing a necessary consequence of studying the classics? We wish we could think so, for all our prejudices lie that way, but we can't. It was not from the Parthenon or the Seven Hills of Rome that one of the great English styles was borne to the Illinois rail-splitter. There is no absolute proof, or invariable rule, either way; for style bloweth where it listeth.

We anticipate much impulse and benefit from the Princeton Classical Conference. No discipline can be a "lost cause" which is able to rally such adherents and produce such credentials. The humanities must hold a place in English teaching if only because English literature is itself shot through with them. If we know nothing of Latin and Greek we shall all the time be aware of blind spots in our eyes as we read the masters in our own tongue. It is impossible for us not to yield to the argument for the classics, but that argument, as we have hinted above, ought not to be asked to bear so much as to break its back. The life of the classics, too, we must see steadily, and see whole.

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# The Science of Optimo-Pessimism

EVEN in these troublous times the discussion of so fertile a subject as that of Optimism vs. Pessimism, undertaken by the venerable Dr. Maudsley in the *Journal of Mental Science*, cannot fail to arouse a certain interest. When we consider that the whole world is supposedly divided into these two categories, that one-half of humanity is supposed to be forever shivering in the shadow of a gloomy outlook, while the other half is basking in the sunshine at the foot of a rainbow, that one-half always wears its hat disconsolately tilted over its eyebrows, and the other, the Micawber half, tips its bowler jauntily over one ear, we begin to realize how important psychological research into the characteristics of these two types becomes. The field has been comparatively untouched hitherto. Aristotle, that intellectual Hindenburg of his day, left it uninvaded, though firmly intrenched in practically every other realm of human inquiry. Shakespeare was by far too partisan in all his numerous utterances anent this subject, with his "We are such stuff as dreams are made on," and his "To be or not to be," to have much scientific weight. So much greater, therefore, the burden on the Mental Scientist.

"The Optimist," according to the latter, who evidently had in mind the prolific Stagyrite's Idealist and Realist, "is a person who pursues Joy; the Pessimist one who pursues Truth." Here, at the very outset, you have a serious error in definition. Optimism and its reverse are not active forces, but static conditions of the human soul. It is this very misconception of Mental Science which has caused so much misbranding of human types. We all are acquainted with certain persons who cause extreme pain to their entourage by their persistent pursuit of Joy, by their horribly cheerful, crickety ways in the face of every legitimate provocation, who never fail to encore a comic recitation, a barefoot solo, or a war discussion. These are the people who fill our cells and electric chairs. They are Confirmed Optimists, no more like the real article than a False Solomon's Seal is like the glowing reality. Nor are true Pessimists those angular persons with hair done low over their ears, who back you off to a sofa in a corner, and, gazing deeply into your eyes, want to know the Truth about Bergson and Neo-Pragmatism, while somebody else is getting away with the strawberry tarts you have all along had your eye on. This is also a false variety which the psychological botanist should not mislabel in his herbarium, really very closely allied to the poisonous Confirmed Optimist, a noxious weed choking the healthy growth of human intercourse.

In short, neither attitude towards life can be acquired by conscious pursuit. No man by taking thought can add one cubit to his Optimism or his Pessimism. If you attempt either one thing or the other, you become a False Type, a most criminal type of False Optimism. Diogenes, in pursuit of an honest man on a dark night with a pocket flash, exhibited a similar parvenu striving towards Pessimistic pose. Such conduct was ostentatious. A steady, smouldering discontent like Hamlet's is the real thing. He was the arch Pessimist, to the manner born. Had he been living now, the Administration would have found in him one of its most constant critics. Not all of his tribe can, however, continue so persistently in the dumps. Some of us are temporarily of the one camp or the other, according to the weather or day of the week. A rainy Monday favors Pessimism, and a fair Saturday Optimism. On the other hand, adverse conditions do not always produce logical temperamental consequence. A bad digestion did not seem to stand in the way of a certain ten-million-dollar subscription to the Liberty Loan. Nor does a good one prevent the German people from discussing peace. Winter and cold weather never drove that cheerful Pessimist, Jaques, away from his gluttonous feeding on the hors d'œuvres of melancholy. There are people, in fact, who insist that he was, after all, a disguised Optimist.

And this may be so. The difficulty of classification is very great. The false types can be easily enough recognized, like poisonous mushrooms, by their hectic colorings and their immediate and disconcerting effect on the intellectual digestion. But within the species the varieties are infinite and their proper orientation calls for a psychological Linnæus. There are, as above pointed out, (1) the Born Optimists and Pessimists, (2) the Self-made Optimists and Pessimists: (a) because of good luck, (b) because of bad luck, (c) through indulgence of wives; (3) Optimist-Pessimists, (4) Pessimist-Optimists, both classes akin to the grafted varieties of fruit, as, for instance, certain kinds of apple crossed with the puckery quince to add a pleasant tart flavor, (5) Partial Optimists and Pessimists, such as the golf Pessimist, whose specialization, at times, goes so far as to cover only one bunker in the whole course. In short, the field of inquiry is tremendously large, and its surface has as yet not even been scratched. Fortunately, its investigation is not, at the present time, of pressing importance.

# On Faltering at the Finish

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The first effects of the Russian revolution have involved a setback for the Allies. If Gen. Brussilov could have launched another drive this spring, by this time highly edifying results might well have emerged. Yet it can already be seen that, in the long run and for the long interest, it is better to have had some delay and disappointment, along with the fall of the autocracy, than immediate military successes redounding to its prestige. The Russian revolution is yet another of those purchases that are worth the price, even though it is high and is imposed at a time when payment comes hard. Very likely, considering the power of suggestion and contagion emanating from such a movement, the revolution has been worth many purely military successes; for its effect lies less in the capture of ground, material, and men's bodies, and more in the conquest of men's minds. The latter sort of victory is the only permanent one. Reports from Germany, since the revolution, afford grounds for the conviction that even the German mind, polarized as it has been, is still subject to suggestion.

But among the phrases issuing from the super-heated centre of disturbance is one which ought not to pass unchallenged or without emendation by the rest of the Allies. This is the one touching indemnities. To accept the programme of no indemnities is to renounce the insistence upon restitution, reparation, and guarantees, so righteously emphasized by various spokesmen of the Allies. Who, for

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example, is going to restore Belgium (in so far as it can ever be restored)? The Belgians cannot do that; and no one of the Allies ought to be asked to do it. Who is held to repair an evil, the one who caused it or the ones who have suffered it or suffered to prevent its extension? Nothing is more just and righteous than that the destroyer should be held to restore. He cannot restore the human damage—he cannot bind up the broken hearts—but he should indemnify otherwise to the last possible degree. It is the least that he can do. He should bring back the stolen goods and pay damages. He should not escape the penalty of breach of the nations' peace. He should indemnify also neutrals of all descriptions for the losses occasioned by his acts of piracy.

When he shall have done all this, he has no more than touched the remotest fringe of restitution and reparation for the world-wide human woe which he has caused. That such world-throes must needs be does not exculpate the precipitating agency. The person who dislodges the balanced boulder on the hillside cannot lay the consequences to gravitation.

Now, what some of us fear, in connection with this "no-indemnities" suggestion, is that certain sentimentalists, by raising a rhythmic clamor that shall beat intolerably upon the ears of a tired world, will succeed in staying the hand of justice in the matter of restitution, reparation, and guarantees; and thus operate to prevent the cleaning-up of this whole job in workmanlike style. Presumably such a movement will not originate in Belgium, or France, or, indeed, among any other of the victims of Germany's barbarities; nor yet among those who have been near enough to see and know, and to experience righteous indignation. It will be among the ethical theorists whose phantasms have not been tested by reference to fact, and who can voice a lofty magnanimity from a protected station.

It is astonishing, if it is true, that any considerable number of Russians can be found to condone the German performances—for that is what renunciation of reparation means. There can be but few Russians who have not suffered, or seen suffering, at the hands of the Germans—suffering that need not have been but for that cynical plotting against the world's peace and comfort which the world is coming now to see and resent. Russians are, like the rest of us, men, and not otherwise. When they have lost that which they love at the hands of transgressors, they want reparation. For all the froth of Socialistic sentiment and the emotionalism of revolution, it is doubtful whether Russia, having really identified the persecutor, will restrain the rod when the time comes. In any case, it is a fair wager that, even if Germany succeeds in her blandishments for a time, her temperament can be relied upon to betray her into some "Streich" of the rude and maladroit order before much damage is done.

Of all the Allies, we Americans are farthest removed from a realization of what the Germans have planned and done. Even the French have felt that they must keep an account of the details of German ferocity against the day of settlement. Over here we do not even know by hearsay—least of all have we experienced—the barbarities which the French are afraid they may forget, as the weariness grows more mortal and the sensibilities are dulled through the long months of trials and efforts. But now we shall have a weighty voice in the settlement of things. And if the end should come before we experience the losses and the heart-ache, we shall be too likely to minimize the wantonnesses committed against others, and shall perhaps wish to conclude the task without bringing it to a finish. Some of us will harp on the familiar sentiment that the criminal is not responsible, that punishment should not be vindictive, that severity never acts as a deterrent; others will appeal to the chivalry that will not strike the opponent when he is down. A number of people will want to be content with the treatment of symptoms, and to neglect the extirpation of the lurking disease. Other scruples will appear which do more credit to the heart than to the head. And then, if the evil is not resolutely cut out, it will resume its growth, and the suffering and loss will have to be incurred again, in more disastrous form, later on.

The distinction between hostility to the German Government and that towards the German people will again be drawn, as it was drawn by the President. It is a little risky to make a distinction of this kind. The issue is not, at bottom, hostility to any persons; it is reprobation of what the persons stand for. But there is no doubt that the German people, Socialists and all, have stood for what the German Government and armies have done. They have been deceived, no doubt; but the responsibility for that cannot rest elsewhere than on themselves. They have been dominated by a fetish; but they bent gladly in their adulation. If they were merely in error, yet it is the way of the world that people must suffer for their own errors. It is thus that they learn to correct themselves—not by being instructed and excused, over and over, but by bitter experience. It is not just that those who were not dominated by illusion, or had worked themselves out of it, should pay for the damage resulting from the ecstasy and intoxication of the obsessed. The German people have stood for the destruction and rape that have been perpetrated upon other people's homes and women; and it is right that they should expiate all this in the small and insufficient degree possible. Much is irreparable; reparation for the reparable should be sternly exacted. Only thus can the illusion and obsession be dispelled. The way to see one's actions as they are is to be held accountable for their results; and many a man changes his ways when he is once forced to visualize them as others see them. There are no fruits more meet for repentance than those tendered, voluntarily or not, in restitution and reparation.

There has got to be a real right-about here. Life would not be livable for most of humanity if the German ideas and power should prevail. The fact that most of humanity now sees the peril and is in arms against the dominance of that for which Germany stands is eloquent witness to this contention. Here is the revelation of a startling danger to the world. It is like the discovery of an unsuspected malignant tumor in the body. Now that we have had to go in with the knife and have uncovered an insidiousness of menace that is simply incredible, the operation should not be stayed by false humanitarianism until the roots of the disorder are removed. This is not vindictiveness or inhumanity; it is, on the contrary, common-sense and an exhibition of the highest humanity. The wholesome development of human society is unthinkable with this menace always in its vitals. And as for hitting an enemy when down, who would apply that rule of chivalry to a serpent? It is not the men that are the target for the blows, I repeat—it is the thing the men stand for; only, as long as they stand for the venomous and detestable thing and hug it to

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them, they should expect to stop the blows that are levelled at it.

The victory is not here, but it is only delayed. However long the delay, it is not too early to consider the terms of settlement. Whatever these are to be, this country has no business to introduce palliations for the culprit where it has not done the suffering. If any of the belligerents who has borne the burden and pain of oppression and humiliation wants to ease up on the defeated aggressor—if Belgium or France, for example, wishes so to do—that is in order. But for us, who for many months have reposed in a safety bought by others' sacrifices, to introduce any element of condonement is worse than impertinent. Our attitude should be an humble one until we have suffered something of what the rest have suffered and attained something of the dignity that goes with it. The Allies are not revengeful barbarians; they will be magnanimous enough without us to teach them. They have met the peril face to face, and they agree that they want restitution, reparation, and guarantees. Coming in fresh, as we do, later in the struggle, we might easily, when it comes to a settlement, introduce an element of easy-going and careless generosity which would amount to faltering at the finish. Our part is to realize the seriousness of this situation, drop all dallying with preconceptions and soft imaginings, and see it through to a genuine finish. Right-minded editors ought to be improvising on this theme pretty steadily from now on.

A. G. KELLER

*New Haven, Conn., May 29*

# The German People

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I believe that the enclosed letter, which I received from a wounded French officer who was invalided and who returned to Holland, where he lived before the war, will be of interest to your readers. I am sending it to you in translation.

GUSTAVE LANSON

*Columbia University, May 25*

MY DEAR FRIEND:

One of my fears, which your letters also express, is this: Will not our American friends and allies, who, according to Briand's beautiful address to the Socialists, "do not know Germany," will they not be inclined to soften at the whining of the slaughterers of Louvain, Aerschot, Dinant, Nomény, Badonvillers, and other places? And I fear, too, that they will be moved by the humble and insipid prayers of those who carried on a slave trade of Belgians and who abduct our young girls from invaded territory.

Will not the distinction which Wilson makes between the German Government and the German people lead him to treat the more or less new Germany, with which he will ask us to parley, with too much indulgence? And will it not be so in the case of Austria, a veritable mosaic of oppression, and with Ferdinand the Traitor and the Great Turk, slasher of Armenians and starver of Syrians, not to mention Constantine the hypocrite?

For the distinction which one tries to make between the German Government and the German people is shockingly false. It is very true that the German people did not express themselves before the 28th of July on the question of the war. It is even possible that a referendum, provided that it had been rigorously sincere and secret, would have made them decide in the negative, on account of the votes of the workmen and the Socialists. Still, I am not at all convinced of it, I who lived in Germany for four years, from 1905-1909. Above all, it would not have done to risk that referendum by limiting it to the intellectuals, the middle class, and the soldiers, for the war would have been voted by an overpowering majority.

In my opinion, the responsibility of the professors and teachers in the formation of Pan-German and military Germany is not less than that of the Junkers and the military. And in order not to limit myself to generalities, I ask, was it the Junkers who made up the 350,000-odd members of the German Fleet Association? If I remember correctly, our modest Maritime League, which for the most part simply arranged regattas, had collected during that time about 2,000 members, and it was the same in the case of our Aerial League.

While watching the movements of a Zeppelin, some workmen said proudly to my Belgian friend, Mr. W., long before the war: "Oh, let the French come now!" And in 1914 a certain man in Hamburg, who was dining with him in a restaurant, assured him that in the next war the Germans would swallow up his country in one mouthful. The next war—that has been the sole topic of conversation in Germany since 1905. One spoke of it as inevitable, and, besides, quite natural. When I left L. on a vacation, earlier than usual, they whispered in the neighborhood that "it is for the war." The people had grown accustomed to that idea.

They told me again, with a tact quite German, "In the next war"—always the war—"we shall not ask you for land, but for money." They even set the figure: thirty billions! Whereupon my wife, losing patience, answered one day: "You never think of what we shall demand." The German smiled and took it for a joke!

They faced with grace what they termed the infidelity of Italy, and they stated that they did not count on her.

How can one expect that a people, trained by *drill*, which begins at a very tender age with beatings administered in the room—"Hans, go up to your room and prepare the rod"—and Hans goes up and takes off his breeches, waiting for the inevitable and legitimate punishment!—continued in school with beatings—a Saxon charwoman in our employ told us: "My children learn nothing in school." We asked her: "Oh, so they must have a bad teacher?" "Yes, she does not beat them at all!"—and later with spying and rewarded denunciation, ending with the unbelievable brutality of the barracks, which is confirmed by the countless proceedings and revelations of the Minister of War—how can one expect that this people, so entirely militarized to its very marrow, should not desire or at least willingly accept war?

The mind as well as the body straightens up at the signal "Attention." The brains, the skulls, are modelled from the very earliest infancy as by the bands of iron which the savages of certain Australian tribes put around the heads of their children in order to give them the desired deformity. A little girl, sheltered in Holland, was going down to the cellar. Her hostess asked her to be careful not to fall, and the little one answered: "I won't fall, I am German" (*Ich falle nicht. Ich bin Deutsch*). She was eight years old! Some other children, to whom Dutch generosity offered hospitality, arrived singing the "Wacht am Rhein"

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and "Deutschland über alles," and wearing on their little aprons the device: "Every blow a Frenchman! Every shot a Russian" (*Jeder Stoss ein Franzos! Jeder Schuss ein Russ*). One of them who was taken in by a lady of Vondelstraat came downstairs one day with a spiked helmet, bearing in large letters the name *Hindenburg*. They had to wrest it from her by force and send away the little demon! Another child, sheltered and fondled by some Jews of German origin, refused the gift which they wanted to present to her when she was leaving, saying: "We accept nothing from Jews" (*Von Juden nehmen wir nichts an!*).

Note that I would refrain from accusing those children, irresponsible victims of a system, but they belong to all the classes of society and show a deformity which is the same in all classes, poisoned by the nationalistic and "alldeutsch" venom.

And that is why a military defeat alone will remove from the hearts of this people the dogma of its superiority, founded on force. Upstarts of glory in 1870, they will learn that force is not everything. And I am afraid that if they do give us satisfaction, it will be because they will see that we are the stronger. Their respect for us, which sometimes even turns to sympathy, comes partly because of Verdun, and that is really distressing!

Who will guarantee to us the quality of their repentance, when in the face of the confession of Bethmann concerning the injustice done to Belgium, their conscience did not protest, and no visible revolt shook them in their plans of annexation in the case of that unfortunate country? "We need, therefore we take," such is their doctrine. When our Government favored or tolerated injustice, the élite of our country rose in protest, even at the risk of harming the country. It was the same in England in the Boer War. I see nothing similar to that in Germany.

The day after the Lusitania incident, Professor Van E. sent in his resignation to the German law reviews of which he was a joint editor. An eminent lawyer answered him, astonished at his blindness, and proclaiming loudly that triumph of the imperial marine. If the university professor is such, one can understand the schoolteacher who taught that the Belgians summoned William II to their aid against King Albert, and the monstrous propaganda of calumny concerning the violation of Belgian neutrality by the Belgians.

This training (*Dressur*) explains the absence of revolt of the people in the presence of the frightful food situation in Germany. They literally die of hunger there. A young man of fifteen, the nephew of Mme. A., lost twenty-three kilograms. A young girl who arrived here is transparent in her pallor. Her father, sick from malnutrition, is in bed at H., and is not in a condition to join her. The son-in-law of Mme. L. arrived from Berlin. He was given some chicken, thinking it would be a treat, but his stomach, weakened by privations, could not stand that very dainty food. You can guess the rest. A doctor had to be sent for. The rich Professor W., of the University of L., asks a Dutch professor, his brother-in-law, to send him packages of food. A Dutch engineer from the Rhine country does the same.

Dr. X., of M., and Banker W., of S., go out every morning at eight to try to buy provisions for their families. They accept this suffering because they believe or pretend to believe in victory, or perhaps because they haven't the strength to react. I am rather inclined to accept the first explanation, but I affirm that the state of malnutrition, which even causes skin diseases, is an unfavorable state for standing defeat. Now, Bagdad, the Russian revolution, the masterly retreat of Hindenburg on the French front, the intervention of America, can with great difficulty pass as victories, even in the eyes of the least critical public in the world.

Let us be patient and we shall have as complete a victory as we desire, and we owe that to our dear great dead! It is now that it is hard to be wounded and painful to feel that one is forever incapacitated for the rush forward. Bapaume, Péronne, Noyon, Roye, to-morrow perhaps Saint-Quentin! I weep for Bapaume. It was the first conquered city.

# BOOKS

## A Novel of Power

*His Family.* By Ernest Poole. New York: The Macmillan Co.

WHATEVER its faults of detail, there was something big about Mr. Poole's first novel, "The Harbor." Its successor establishes his position as a serious interpreter of American life in a phase and a setting so complex that we sometimes feel them to be merely chaotic. He looks upon the bewildering metropolitan scene, the whole of it, and finds a meaning in it; not, perhaps, *the* meaning (who can say?) but a meaning distinguishable, unforced, and lacking neither dignity nor sympathy.

"His Family" makes one sure that behind the writer's theories, his Socialism and all, is a broad sympathetic outlook. Here we see the lesser and more intimate action of the family chronicle—complete, one might say, in itself, a veritable microcosm—enfolded by and envisaging the life of that larger microcosm which is called New York city. And here is no single social thesis or problem to challenge the tale proper for the possession of the scene. One does not feel that the theorist is trying to impose himself upon the story-teller, or even that the story-teller is embarrassed by his habit of speculation. The striking thing about the book is its easy self-possession, its effortless fusion or balancing of so great a variety of elements and strains. It has, relatively speaking, the quality of a "Comédie Humaine" between two covers. In short, it is the work of a man who has, to the best of his ability and according to his nature, mastered his materials and set free his hand. He is still at the nether verge of middle age, yet his utterance is that of an observer who has reached, with full maturity, a mellowed acceptance of life, a brooding comprehension of its trivialities, its torments, its piteous defeats, and its undying hopes of victory.

But, like all novels of power and depth, this is first of all a good story. It is, of course, for the reader to whom a story means a thoughtful human chronicle: these are "real folks," fellow-voyagers of our own sort, in whose fortune we have a stake, from whom we part reluctantly at the end of the journey. Criticism harps a trifle wearisomely, no doubt, upon the Americanism or un-Americanism of every new novel as it appears; but we venture to say that here is something uncommonly our own—of, for, and by us. Roger Gale and his family we recognize not as "like" certain persons next door or over the way, but as intense and natural selves. We know and we feel them as we know and feel the Silas Laphams. Other times!—The Roger Gale of this

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narrative is a man of sixty, bred, one may say, in the Lapham period, but here facing, with us, a puzzlingly different world. In earlier life he has known prosperity and a happy mating, but his wife's death, sixteen years before we meet him, has given him to a sort of lethargy. We see him waking from it, looking about him. The first sentences of the opening chapter enable us to share his mood:

> He was thinking of the town he had known. Not of *old* New York—he had heard of that from old, old men when he himself had still been young and had smiled at their garrulity. He was thinking of a *young* New York, the mighty throbbing city to which he had come long ago as a lad from the New Hampshire mountains. A place of turbulent thoroughfares, of shouting drivers, hurrying crowds, the crack of whips, and the clatter of wheels; an uproarious, thrilling town of enterprise, adventure, youth; a city of pulsing energies, the centre of a boundless land; a port of commerce with all the world, of stately ships with snowy sails; a fascinating pleasure town, with throngs of eager travellers hurrying from the ferryboats and rolling off in hansom cabs to the huge hotels on Madison Square. A city where American faces were still to be seen upon all its streets, a cleaner and a kindlier town, with more courtesy in its life, less of the vulgar scramble. A city of houses, separate homes, of quiet streets with rustling trees, with people on the doorsteps upon warm summer evenings, and groups of youngsters singing as they came trooping by in the dark. A place of music and romance . . .

All this is changed. His red brick house in the side street near Washington Square has been engulfed by tall apartment houses. His daughters, while he has dozed, have grown away from him into creatures of this new, strange generation. The oldest, Edith, has been for some years married. She has the temper and the prejudices of the "old-fashioned woman," but must play her absorbing game of wifehood and motherhood according to the accepted rules of contemporary snobbery: a woman of virtuous narrowness and obstinacy, whose official sweetness is always in danger of becoming a pest to those she domineeringly loves. The second daughter, Deborah, is of heroic mould—the modern woman who is ready to sacrifice her private happiness to a Cause. Deborah's cause is the mothering of thousands. She is the principal of a great public school, which to her is a place for making not students, but human beings and happy citizens. The third child, Laura, is a modern woman of another type, the pleasure-loving beauty who is full of the doctrine of living her own life, and who is ready to trample daintily under foot whatever decencies or conventions may threaten to deny her anything. Such Roger Gale finds them upon his reawakening. He reproaches himself for having done so little for them, learned so little of them: "To the eye they were grown women all, but inwardly they were children still, each groping for her happiness and each held back, as he had been, either by checks within herself or by the gay distractions of the absorbing city. He saw each of his daughters, parts of himself. And he remembered what Judith had said: 'You will live on in our children's lives.' And he began to get glimmerings of a new immortality, made up of generations, an endless succession of other lives extending into the future."

Of the daughters Deborah is closest to her father, the kindly, bothered, groping old fellow, who is so slow to realize that he is old. Deborah brings to him something of her vision of a larger world than that of decent people and comfortable living—a world of pitiful, striving, aspiring, lovable millions whose happiness is as much to be desired and striven for as that of his own daughters. And he, in turn, is able, by dint of common-sense and a turn of fate, to save her the normal happiness as wife and mother which she had been disposed to sacrifice wantonly. For his other daughters he can do little or nothing. Beautiful Laura goes her primrose way, triumphant and miraculously unpunished to the end—to the end of her beauty and youth, at least. Upon Edith's small tyranny he is able to put a sort of quietus, for Deborah's sake. But Deborah's happiness is his great feat. He is destined for no long life thereafter—a brief twilight, peaceful on the whole, since his old faith is restored and a larger, newer faith stirring in him. He has longed to live beyond this life, he himself, with the beloved spirit he has lost: now come to him dreams of another immortality. A very noble passage he makes from the life he has known. Out of troubled dreams of human strife and frailty silence falls, and peace:

> "Surely this is death," he thought. After that he was alone. And presently from far away he heard the booming of a bell, deep and low, sepulchral, as it measured off his life. Another silence followed, and this time it was more profound; and with a breathless awe he knew that all the people who had ever lived on earth were before him in the void to which he himself was drifting: people of all nations, of countless generations reaching back and back and back to the beginnings of mankind: the mightiest family of all, that had stumbled up through the ages, had slaved and starved and dreamed and died, had blindly hated, blindly killed, had raised up idols and yearned for everlasting life, had laughed and played and danced along, had loved and mated, given birth, had endlessly renewed itself and handed on its heritage, had striven hungrily to learn, had groped its way in darkness, and after all its struggles had come now barely to the dawn. And then a voice within him cried, "What is humanity but a child? In the name of the dead I salute thee unborn!"
>
> . . .
>
> The sun rose strangely dazzling. It filled the heavens with blinding light. He felt himself drawn up and up—while from somewhere far behind he heard the cry of Deborah's child. A clear sweet thrill of happiness came. And after that—we do not know.
>
> For he had left his family.

We find it happily difficult to put in the familiar measured terms our impression of such a book as this. In its mass, its solidity, its noble and simple contour, it rises like a shining peak above the high, and flat, plateaus of our "average workmanship."

## Studies of the Far East

*Contemporary Politics in the Far East.* By Stanley K. Hornbeck. New York: D. Appleton & Co. $3 net.

*The Development of China.* By Kenneth Scott Latourette. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co. $1.75 net.

THOUGH dealing with the most highly contentious historical material, and interpreting treaties and understandings on which the ink is hardly yet dry, Professor Hornbeck's book succeeds throughout in being an admirably impartial treatise. He criticises unsparingly Japan's aggressions of 1915, which culminated in the regrettable ultimatum of May 5. But he criticises them no more bitterly than Japanese to-day are also coming to do; and he fortifies his strictures with a series of lucid and painstaking chapters which build up gradually the whole background of Japan's modern history. His citations, especially in this instance, are deadly. He publishes the secret demands of Japan in full, and parallels them significantly with the innocent little list of "delayed questions" issued for foreign

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consumption. He gives the complete text of the subsequent treaties, and follows Japan, in moderate language, but with damning evidence, through the various advantages she has usurped because of them, especially in the course of dispossessing the Germans from Shantung.

The book is, however, in no sense anti-Japanese, nor is it calculated to stimulate anti-Japanese prejudice in any way. It is refreshingly frank, but it is generous and judicious. And in his admirably just and sympathetic account of the long fight Japan herself had to make against Occidental penetration, which relinquished its substantial control over the awakening new nation much more grudgingly than the present generation remembers, Dr. Hornbeck reminds Japan of the unfaltering friendship and fair-dealing she received during these trying times from America. His textual evidence of the way in which this nation stood ready for twenty-two years to abandon the humiliation of extraterritoriality—and stood alone—disposes of England's "first friend" claim in amicable terms but irrefutable conclusions. He understands what so few writers on the Far East understand about Japan, that the greater half by far of her so-called aggression and imperialism is self-defence and exaggerated caution. Japan tightens her grip on China because she sees no other nation loosening its grip there; and her first experiences with these Western nations were learned in a hard and distrustful school. He concludes that if there is a general relaxation of aggression in China, in which we may very fittingly take the lead, Japan will unreservedly follow that lead.

Regarding China, particularly with respect to her domestic conditions, he is not so far-seeing. His heart was with the revolutionaries, but his head inclined towards the centralizers of authority, and unfortunately he was seeing his book through the press at just the time when almost every foreign observer in China shared his view that the Republic must soon be supplanted by Yuan Shi-Kai's monarchy. History, especially in China, plays sad tricks with prophecies, and the reconstituted and greatly revived Chinese Republic is a sufficient answer to-day to Professor Hornbeck's skepticism of 1916. The author has been an instructor in the Fengtien Law College in Manchuria and at the Chekiang Provincial College in mid-coastal China, and, with the reservation mentioned, his general account of current conditions in China is thoroughly sound and unprejudiced. His admirably complete summaries of China's recent constitutional experiments are a real addition to the present-day history of the Far East. His chapter on party politics in Peking is unsparingly analytical of the pretensions of Young China, but it is exactly the sort of criticism that Young China should expect—and should frequently get—from her real friends. And Professor Hornbeck is a real supporter of Young China, as he is a real friend to progressive Japan. For he distinguishes progressive Japan from the Junkers who there, as elsewhere, make most of the trouble in the world of foreign affairs. His book, in the best tradition of American liberalism, vigorous, realistic, hopeful, broadly planned, and trenchantly written, is the most serviceable contribution in recent years towards America's proper understanding of her responsibilities in the Far East.

Mr. Latourette's book is quite in a different mood and tense. It is a textbook on, as the title implies, the history and development of China. It furnishes a splendid background to just such a study as Professor Hornbeck's. While lacking the vitality and the temperamental felicity of such life-long writers on China and her history as Giles, for instance, and Little and Martin, Mr. Latourette does nevertheless cover the ground that these more rugged writers have covered before him; and he covers it with a precision and a scholarship that perfectly adapt his book to the college classrooms for which he has designed it. He writes a history of China which is a keenly appreciative summary of her civilization. He has a candid and unwinking eye for the blemishes of this civilization; but he does not hesitate to admit with equal frankness that in various periods of China's history she has had the greatest and most populous empire in the world, the most peacefully and justly governed state, and, last but not least, the most democratic current understanding of the social contract. He traces the history of China, too, as a growing organism, susceptible from the earliest times to a continuously restless desire, contrary to our usual view, for improvement. His chapter on Chinese culture is a masterpiece of readable and informative condensation.

His version of modern issues in China suffers rather than gains from its somewhat icy detachment. It is not an account of men and events so much as a rather loosely strung appraisal of general changes and tendencies. It rarely descends to the personal or the explicit, and it describes the Republican leaders of to-day in a manner which makes them much less interesting than the emperors of antiquity. This is unfortunate, for with so much history around us and so clamorously near us, even our universities are taking a quite inordinate interest in the present day. Still, it is very far from marring the merit of Mr. Latourette's fine work. He further adds to the value of the book as a basis for instruction by a voluminous index and an extremely serviceable and well-chosen bibliography.

## Translations from the Scandinavian

*Modern Icelandic Plays: Eyvind of the Hills, The Hraun Farm.* By Johann Sigurjonsson. Translated from the Danish of Henninge Krohn Schanche. New York: American-Scandinavian Foundation. $1.50 net.

*The Prose Edda.* By Snorri Sturluson. Translated from the Icelandic with an Introduction by Arthur Gilchrist Brodeur. New York: American-Scandinavian Foundation. $1.50 net.

*Brand.* By Henrik Ibsen. Translated into English verse, rhymed and in the original metre, by Miles Menander Dawson. Boston: The Four Seas Co.

DURING the past year the American-Scandinavian Foundation has added two volumes—numbers five and six—to its series of Scandinavian Classics. In what sense the very recent Icelandic plays by Sigurjonsson can be regarded as classics it is hard to see. With such significant time-tested works, for example, as Paludan-Müller's "Adam Homo" or J. P. Jacobsen's "Niels Lyhne" and "Fru Marie Grubbe" practically unknown to American readers, it is a little disappointing to find this series transformed into another agency for translating the latest plays into English.

To be sure, "Eyvind of the Hills" is an unusually stirring tragedy. The author is one of a group of young Icelandic writers who bear witness to the existence of a well-defined intellectual and literary renaissance in the birthplace of the most characteristic Old Norse writing. In the work of this

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coterie some of the sternness and majesty of that remote mediæval literature persists. This is true especially of "Eyvind of the Hills."

This play is founded on a romantic story of an eighteenth-century outlaw. Eyvind, tired of living in exile among the hills, has come down into the valley and under the name Kari has become the overseer of the farm of Halla, a rich widow. The two fall in love with each other. When another suitor, her brother-in-law Björn, proves to her that Kari is an outlaw, she rejects her kinsman's advances and flees to the mountains to live with her lover, if need be the twenty years that must pass before his crime is outlawed. The last two acts describe the primitive struggle of the two to escape capture or death at the hands of the pitiless nature which they find the crags of northern Iceland to be. Halla bears Eyvind two children. One of them, we learn from retrospective dialogue, has been born in winter and immediately exposed to die in the cold by the mother. The death of the other child, a little three-year-old girl, forms part of the climax of the third act. Björn and a band of his followers discover the refuge of the outlaws, and Halla, believing that the burden of the child would accomplish the capture of all of them, rushes out and drowns it in an icy spring.

In the last act Halla and Eyvind are discovered in a small hut in the hills, imprisoned by a snowstorm that has been raging for seven days. They are both near starvation. Under the naked suffering of the occasion and their cruel memories, they reproach each other for their love and tremble at beholding the creatures that their terrible life had made them. Halla has been transformed into a being that feels itself akin to all the cruelty and horror of the universe; and, though she at first exults in the kinship, she dares not let Eyvind go forth to seek food and leave her alone. He promises, therefore, to meet death with her in the hut; but when he goes out at Halla's request to get some firewood, she deliberately walks out into the snow to certain death. And the play ends with Eyvind rushing out to find her and with the sound of his despairing voice calling her name further and further in the distance until it is hushed by the storm.

The play is more than a story in dramatic form. True, some romantic interest is contributed to the tragedy by the strange, picturesque spots in which the scenes are laid and the extraordinary situations in which the characters find themselves. The author, however, shows himself a true dramatist in the way in which he reduces these situations into the mere setting for the struggle among human beings. In the last act, in particular, he shows a psychological realism and directness that proves him an inheritor from Ibsen. Yet this incisive method is applied to characters in whom flows the blood of the men and women of the heroic sagas. The play establishes in our minds the persistence in modern Iceland of Old Norse modes of action and thought and the conviction of the essential humanity of this man and woman suffering almost superhuman anguish. It is thus at once romantic and realistic. The play has been given with great success in Denmark—it was originally written in Danish—and in Germany. It has been presented, we understand, in Professor Baker's Workshop at Harvard, and we believe that it may be seen before long in one of the New York theatres. If not a Scandinavian classic, "Eyvind of the Hills" is at least an unusual and moving contemporary drama.

"The Hraun Farm," the other play in the volume, is of much less importance. It is a love story of pastoral Iceland told with little dramatic skill. The successful effects are produced by the presentation of distinctly Icelandic scenery and events, such as the earthquake which drives the farmer and all his household to live in tents and finally shakes down his farmhouse in ruins. This drama is clearly the product of the author's "'prentice hand."

"The Prose Edda" is indisputably a Scandinavian classic, and one of the greatest. It has found a very skilful and sympathetic translator in Dr. Brodeur. His version contains all of the "Gylfaginning" and all of the Skaldskaparmal (the poesy of the skalds). It is the first translation in English which contains all of the second part. Dasent renders only the narrative passages of this portion. Not only in respect of completeness, but in respect of accuracy and spirit, Dr. Brodeur's translation ought to supersede the other English ones.

Ibsen's "Brand" continues to assume greater and greater importance in the career of the great Norwegian dramatist. It appears with increasing distinctness to represent the turning point in his life as a poet and as a man, and also to be the most profound expression of his genius. Yet none of the three poetical English versions already made has been able to capture fully the spirit of the original. These facts have inspired Mr. Dawson in his long labor of love. He has been working at his translation for nearly twenty-five years. In spite of this fact, his version is hardly as successful as some of those which precede it. He always understands and renders accurately, but, in his attempt to preserve the metre of the original, he often sacrifices some of its astonishing compactness and simplicity. His translation of the following little speech of Brand's is typical of most of his work:

> Jeg se det godt
> Pa hvert et öjes blygvaa ring
> Det Kendes hvem som holder ting.
>
> 'Tis plain to see
> The trembling body, thi⁻ and weak—
> The sunken eye, the wasted cheek,
> Are proofs convincing unto me
> Of what has here the upper hand.

Herford's translation will doubtless still be the one generally read, though that made by the late F. E. Garrett and published in his "Lyrics and Poems from Ibsen" is easily the best. More than the others, he has conveyed Ibsen's original poetic speech.

## The Appreciation of Prints

*French Etchers of the Second Empire.* By William Aspenwall Bradley. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co. $1.50 net.

*The Print Collector's Quarterly.* Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co.

*Cincinnati.* Prints from the etchings of E. T. Hurley. With comment by A. H. Dunham. Cincinnati: The St. James Press.

"THESE studies," says Mr. Bradley in the introduction to his book, "appeared originally in the *Print Collector's Quarterly,* and are here reprinted with few changes. Though not planned as a series, they derive a certain unity from the fact that all deal with a group of

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French graphic artists, mainly etchers, viewed against the background of French life and letters under the Second Empire."

For the consideration of prints from this point of view Mr. Bradley is well equipped, and his method of treatment is calculated to increase the appreciation of prints. To a wider interest in this field of art several factors have contributed not a little in our land, among them the print rooms of the New York Public Library and of the Boston Museum (which have furnished the originals for a number of the reproductions in this book) and the *Print Collector's Quarterly*. This last-named publication, one of the only two periodicals extant devoted to prints (the other being *Graphische Künste*, in Vienna), is wide and varied in scope, training a public as well as interesting it. The December number, for example, is devoted to Leoni, Whistler, Mary Cassatt, and Rajon, and the preceding one, dealing largely with lithography, had articles on Havell, Fantin-Latour, Corot, and Menzel.

To those more familiar with the subject Mr. Bradley's little volume will prove inducive to divagations and discursions. The very list of contents indicates that: "Meryon and Baudelaire"; "Charles Meryon, poet"; "Maxime Lalanne"; "Some French Etchers and Sonnetteers" (dealing with the volume "Sonnets et Eaux-Fortes"); "The Goncourts and their Circle"; "Some French Artists During the Siege and Commune." The papers lead us into such by-ways as are represented by the poems written by Meryon for his etchings, which "have an intrinsic literary value of their own," and several of which here receive sympathetic and adequate translations; or by the records of the siege of Paris, made in snow statues by Falguière and Moulin, and in etching by Bracquemond, Lalanne, and Martial. The statement, by the way, that Bertall's Communists are etched is evidently a slip of the pen. The Goncourt group especially affords interesting glimpses of the artistic and literary Paris of that day. The lover of modern prints notes names such as that of Philippe Burty, Gavarni, Jacque, and Nanteuil. The last named Mr. Bradley, like Beraldi, classes as an etcher, but he has always appealed to the present reviewer by certain original lithographs, like the one depicting a love-scene by implication—no lovers in sight—as having some flavor perhaps of Fragonard.

Citations of appreciations of artists by contemporary writers include the rhetorical facility of Victor Hugo *in re* Queyroy, and the noteworthy judgment of the Goncourts on Meryon. But there are also happy characterizations by Mr. Bradley himself, who speaks of Maxime Lalanne's "clearness, fluency, and conciseness," or of Buhot's "disdain for all restraints arising from the nature of the medium." One notes also with satisfaction the description of Bracquemond's half-length of Edmond de Goncourt—not labored, despite its finish—as "one of the greatest of modern portrait etchings."

We learn that "Baudelaire thought highly of etching because it afforded an opportunity for 'the most clean-cut possible translation of the character of the artist' "; but he also "expressed his belief that this art would never really become popular, . . . that the personal, and therefore aristocratic, element which the French poet and connoisseur correctly felt to be of the very essence of etching, must of necessity limit its appeal and forever keep it the favored medium of the few rather than of the many." The undoubted truth in this estimate should perhaps be modified in statement. Baudelaire was writing in 1862, at the time of the revival in painter-etching, and there is a revival with us to-day. Etching societies in Chicago, New York, Brooklyn, and Philadelphia give collective expression to individual effort on the copper. The little book of reproductions of etchings by Edward Timothy Hurley comes to us as a reminder of what they are doing in the Middle West. Hurley, a pupil of Frank Duveneck, has made unpretentious, sympathetic records of a city which he evidently loves. Moreover, he has in some instances honestly faced unloveliness in giving his impressions of the city's aspects. And in doing all this he has shown again the influence which nationality has on art, the incentive of the locality which means home to the artist and which he depicts with love for his subject.

The present revival of etching, abroad and here, has produced much good work, some very good. But it has also resulted in work which emphasizes the fact that the mere putting of a drawing on copper is not etching, that etching, as Huneker has it, "is too often an excuse for scribblers and dilettantes," that it has its dignity only through the personality behind it, that it may be not only "in fashion" (*à la mode*, said Baudelaire), but on the town, to be chucked under the chin by the gay trifler, as Whistler puts it. Nevertheless, and though there be pose in some of the appreciation of the public, though collecting may sometimes be actuated by motives not exactly æsthetic, the hope is not unfounded that the "few" on whom Mr. Bradley depends may be increasing, even though slowly, as a result of the same conditions which bring about the general rise in the level of knowledge.

## Sir Launfal of the Labrador

*Tales of the Labrador.* By Wilfred Thomason Grenfell. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co. $1.25 net.

REALITY both of form and of spirit is the outstanding merit of Dr. Grenfell's latest book. Northern latitudes make sham impossible; the stormy northern ocean will not tolerate insincerity. The men of the Labrador wrest a scanty living from the churlish soil, or trap the furry creatures of the forest, or gather the perilous harvest of the sea. Such a life demands the primal virtues. The men of the Labrador are a simple folk, brave as a matter of course, hardy, possessed of almost superhuman powers of endurance, as all who know the Newfoundland Naval Reserve and the Newfoundland Regiment can testify. They have the hospitality of the poor and the great kindness of the poor. Descendants of the men of Dorset and Devon, who have manned Britain's navy and mercantile marine for centuries, these fishers and trappers retain the West Country accent and way of speech. Dr. Grenfell knows their life from the inside; he has been among them as one that serves. Up and down those desolate shores he has sailed or tramped, tending their physical and spiritual needs. Now he has begun to report and tell the world a little of what he has learned.

These "Tales" are true. The interest of them would, in Miranda's phrase, "cure deafness." It is almost too poignant. One follows the narrative of the starving trapper tracking the fox that has carried off the trap with genuine anxiety and impatience till the rescue comes. So, too, when the Handy Lass ends her prosperous Christmas

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voyage in a black squall, and the Little Rover is piled up at night at the foot of a cliff, the reality of the men who cannot swim struggling for their lives in the icy water becomes something personal. Their manful fight, their resource, their good comradeship, their faith, their iron endurance, grip one's very heart-strings. The people of the Labrador are "constantly on poortith's brink." Every winter brings with it the spectre of starvation and "dry diet," which means flour without fat, and sometimes the flour runs out. Their remarkable charity is illustrated in "The Gifts of Poverty," and also the sturdy independence that will accept nothing even from a friend, even in extremity, without making a return. The curious religious divisions of the Ancient Colony and the writer's kindly tolerance are well defined in the story of the poor blind Irishman who makes a pilgrimage to Ste. Anne de Beaupré, the Lourdes of Canada, in order to recover his sight, and receives not the miraculous cure he sought, but another blessing. There are two capital stories of dogs saving their masters' lives; one, a trapper, had a seizure in the woods, when miles from home; and the other out on the ice after "swiles" fell into the sea. In both cases, the determining factors are the intelligence, affection, and persistence of the "huskies." Three stories illustrate the character of the Eskimos, that cheerful, hardy, hospitable, and honorable native race. Their virtues put more civilized folk to shame.

From these o'er-true tales one reverts inevitably to the personality of the writer. For twenty years he has devoted himself to the work of the Deep Sea Mission along the Labrador. At first he was the mission, Wilfred Grenfell, physician, surgeon, and master mariner. Now he has his hospitals, his steamer, his band of devoted workers filled with his spirit. For twenty years he has spent and been spent in the service of this people whom none had regarded. Such a life has a way of making ordinary ambitions look small and childish. Though he would smile his own whimsical, deprecating smile at the attribution, he has revealed the spirit of Lowell's knight:

> Not what we give, but what we share,
> For the gift without the giver is bare.

## Musical History, Fiction, and Education

*A History of Music.* By Charles Villiers Stanford and Cecil Forsyth. New York: The Macmillan Co. $2.

*Unfinished Portraits.* By Jennette Lee. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. $1.25 net.

*The Music Supervisor.* By Thomas Tapper. Boston: Oliver Ditson Co. $1.25.

*Listening Lessons in Music.* By Agnes Moore Freyberger. New York: Silver, Burdett & Co. $1.25.

ONE fault is particularly noticeable in the "History of Music" which is the joint production of Sir Charles Villiers Stanford, the distinguished Irish composer, and Cecil Forsyth, the equally eminent scholar. Mr. Forsyth knows a great deal, and he has tried to put all he knows into this book, the result being that the ancient and mediæval periods, on which he writes, fill 214 pages, leaving to Stanford only 137 pages. When one reads some of Sir Charles's pages, to be sure, one feels sorry his partner left him as much as that. This is particularly true of his pages on Liszt. One might overlook the flippant way in which he speaks of that composer's creative powers, for in so doing he simply follows the precedent of some old-fashioned German textbooks, now superseded by Riemann's remarkable "Geschichte der Musik seit Beethoven," in which Liszt's originality is for the first time fully demonstrated. But it was Stanford's duty as an historian to make at least some reference to the enormous influence which Liszt, by creating the symphonic poem, exerted on nearly all other modern composers, Brahms being the only conspicuous exception. Brahms, it is needless to say, is placed under a magnifying glass in this book; there are even two pictures of him, while Schubert, Chopin, Wagner, and other giants have none. There is no hint as to the enormous influence wielded by Schubert and Chopin; Grieg is disposed of in a dozen pleasant lines, and Chopin has twenty-one; while Dunstable has three pages. It is all very English.

One can no longer reproach the British, as Dr. Hueffer did when he was critic of the London *Times*, that their musical vision included only two masters—Handel and Mendelssohn, for so far as Sir Charles, at any rate, is concerned, at least one other man, Johannes Brahms, has been added to the list. His partner is more liberal. He speaks very kindly of Stanford as being "the man of widest achievement" in a group including also Cowen, Elgar, Parry, Mackenzie, Sullivan, and Delius. His chapters on ancient and mediæval music discuss many obscure points in a remarkably lucid way, and they embody the latest research work. He contributes, also, the chapter on American music, in which he says that MacDowell "was a pupil of Raff, but a much abler composer than his master"; which recalls a remark once made to the present reviewer by MacDowell, that Raff had said to him: "Your music will be famous when mine is forgotten."

Chopin, so inadequately treated in the book of Stanford and Forsyth, is brought nearer home to readers, at least as a man, in the "Unfinished Portraits" of Jennette Lee. Her volume includes seven stories in which, besides the four painters, Titian, Giorgione, Leonardo, and Dürer, three composers are introduced as figures in fiction, in a way which makes them appeal to the sympathies of even those to whom their compositions are as sealed books. Bach is shown in competition with old Reinken, the famous organist; Schubert as a teacher of the young Countesses Esterhazy; Chopin in a series of cleverly "forged" diary entries, recording the time when Jane Stirling came to his rescue with a 20,000-franc note. No author has ever received a more flattering compliment than did Mrs. Lee when Chopin specialists in Germany and Poland accepted her ingenious fiction as a real biographic "find" and commented on it accordingly.

To the cause of musical education two extremely valuable books have been added by Thomas Tapper and Agnes Moore Freyberger, books concerning which we should like to say much more than our space permits. Mr. Tapper's book is intended to serve as a guide to those who wish to make school children at least as capable in music as they are in other branches, and in Mrs. Freyberger's book the supervisors and the teachers can learn a method of making children "as eager to hear new pieces and find what they are like as to get hold of a new story." This book is epoch-making. Music teachers would do well to follow its advice.

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# Notes

WE are requested to announce that the next annual meeting of the American Association of University Professors will be held at Chicago, and that the dates will probably be December 27 and 28.

IN connection with the Conference on Classical Studies in Liberal Education, held at Princeton on last Saturday, a small pamphlet has been published, having the title of the Conference, which can be obtained free by application to Dean Andrew F. West, of Princeton University. It contains statements by President Wilson, ex-Presidents Taft, Roosevelt, and Cleveland, and others, with tables showing the number of students taking Latin in the secondary schools and the relative proficiency of these students. It will be a surprise to many to learn that a larger percentage of students in secondary schools took Latin in 1915 than in 1890.

JOHN LANE COMPANY announces the publication this week of William J. Locke's "The Red Planet."

"Vagabonding Down the Andes," by Harry A. Franck, will be published in the autumn by the Century Company.

E. P. Dutton & Company announce as forthcoming "The Culture and Diseases of the Sweet Pea," by J. J. Taubenhaus; "Trench Warfare," by Lieut. J. S. Smith, and "The Soul of Ulster," by Ernest W. Hamilton.

The following volumes will be published shortly by Longmans, Green & Company: "The First Violations of International Law by Germany," by Louis Renault, translated by Frank Carr; "English Farming, Past and Present," by Rowland E. Prothero; "Woman's Effort: A Chronicle of British Women's Fifty Years' Struggle for Citizenship (1865–1914)," by A. E. Metcalfe; "The Work of St. Optatus, Bishop of Milevis, against the Donatists," translated with notes by O. R. Vassall-Phillips; "Ordered Liberty, or an Englishman's Belief in His Church," by A. S. Duncan-Jones; "Peace and War," by Paul B. Bull. Publications of the Manchester University Press announced by this house are "Shell Shock and Its Lessons," by G. Eliot Smith, and "Selections from the Old English Bede," by W. J. Sedgefield.

A BOOK on which it would be pleasant to enlarge, but which we must deal with briefly, is the eighth issue of the Oxford Historical and Literary Studies, containing "Political Ballads Illustrating the Administration of Sir Robert Walpole," edited by Milton Percival (8s. 6d.). It is truly a work in which history and literature join hands, and in reading it one feels one's self actually transported to the age when England was seething with "patriotism" (the brand of patriotism denounced by Dr. Johnson as the last resort of scoundrels) against the corruption of a tenacious Government. In a well-digested introduction Dr. Percival gives some account of the rise and decay of this ballad literature, and distinguishes the various kinds of authorship. We are inclined to think that, on the whole, he has been led by editorial caution (no bad or common trait) to place the merits of these fugitive pieces too low. Many of them are vigorous and witty, and not a few of them leave their sting behind. Occasionally, too, there is the flutter to the mind of modern application. So, at a time when Spain was sinking British ships and cutting off the ears of British seamen, while endless negotiations were carried on between the two countries, an indignant citizen puts these words into the mouth of Sir Robert:

> You may talk of your *Burleigh*, your *Raleigh*, and *Drake*,
> And all those mad Fellows that made *Spain* to quake;
> But forgive me to say, while I do myself *Right*,
> That I am the first have the Heart, *Not to Fight*.

IN two handy and neatly printed volumes the Oxford University Press has published a new translation of "The Discourses and Manual of Epictetus," by P. E. Matheson (3s. 6d. net each). The style of the work is fluent and easy, and the difficult matter of finding suitable English equivalents for the technical terms of Stoicism has been well handled. In a fairly careful examination of the first book of the "Discourses" we have noted only three places in which the rendering is palpably in error. In the ninth book, after the words "I wanted your help, not your pity," Mr. Matheson has left out a clause. In the twelfth book the words "on entering life" should be "entering life before your parents," or the like. And in the twenty-fourth book the sum of the closing words of the first paragraph should be, "God, like a master of exercise, has engaged you with a rough antagonist." We observe that in all three cases the old version of Mrs. Carter (an excellent and scholarly piece of work) follows the Greek correctly. Mr. Matheson's introduction is good so far as it goes, but might well have been expanded so as to show the meaning of the Stoic philosophy for modern times, and also its deficiencies. Standing between Platonism and Christianity, Stoicism offers a study replete with vital interest.

THE Imperial Academy of Art and Science awarded an honorable mention to "The Torch-Bearers of Bohemia," now translated from the Russian of Mme. V. J. Kryshanovskaya and published by McBride. The novel certainly deserves recognition, if only for the fact that it is perhaps the only work of fiction dealing with the period of John Huss. It has the romantic fascination of the past, and the English reader will find a familiar atmosphere in the book, owing to the excellent translation which has preserved the peculiarities of the epoch through a masterly use of old English and of the traditional methods of Scott and Reade. The author has been true to historical facts, the plot being carried through without twisting recorded events and situations. The inevitable love-story does not bedim the background on which are vividly displayed the tragedy of the forerunner of Luther, the flagrant corruption of the Roman Church, the brazen farce of the Council of Constance, the perfidy of Emperor Sigismund, and the general picture of German tyranny and oppression perpetrated in Bohemia.

THE collected addresses and state papers of the Hon. Elihu Root are being published under the general editorship of Messrs. Robert Bacon and James Brown Scott by the Harvard University Press. Speeches and papers relating to allied topics are being grouped together and a volume is devoted to each group. The latest issue in this interesting series is entitled "Military and Colonial Policy of the United States" ($2.50 net). It includes for the most part extracts from Mr. Root's annual reports during the period when he was Secretary of War, some of them dealing with strictly military affairs, others with problems of military and civil government in Cuba, Porto Rico, and the

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Philippines. Taken together they cover several topics of great importance in the development of American military policy, the reorganization of the army after the war with Spain, the creation of the General Staff, and the establishment of the Army War College. Likewise they throw light upon the evolution of government in the insular possessions. In addition the volume includes some formal addresses on the broader aspects of the same general subject. All are chosen with good judgment and together they make a volume which is of direct pertinence to the problems of to-day.

THE loyal affection of the pupils and friends of the late Dr. Agnes Mathilde Wergeland, professor of history in the University of Wyoming, has prompted the reprinting of her monograph on "Slavery in Germanic Society During the Middle Ages" (University of Chicago Press; $1), so that some record of her scholarship may be preserved in a permanent form. The subject is considered under three heads: reduction, or the downward course, during which the slave becomes more and more a thing; restitution, or the upward course, during which the lot of the slave is ameliorated; and, finally, liberation. Old Norse as well as old German sources are liberally drawn upon. The author has emphasized the fact that the Germans as a race were by no means averse to slavery in its extreme form, though for economic reasons they practiced it less extensively than in the Roman south. The study shows evidences of clear thinking and of a large, general grasp of the institutional history of northern Europe. The occasional foreign tang in the writer's style is not unpleasant.

THE fourth volume of Clarence R. Aurner's "History of Education in Iowa" (State Historical Society of Iowa), a series which we have characterized as the best history of education in any State yet produced, is devoted to a record of the origin and growth of Iowa's three institutions of higher education—the State University at Iowa City, the State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts at Ames, and the State Teachers' College at Cedar Falls. Iowa, unlike its neighbors Illinois and Minnesota, was early in the field of higher education, provision for an "Iowa University" having been made in 1840. This institution was soon suspended, however, and was not revived until 1860. Its history for the next thirty years was, considering the depressed state of higher education throughout the Middle West, fairly vigorous; by 1878 it had graduated about 900 students, and between 1879 and 1887 more than 1,500 others left its doors. In the nineties it fell perceptibly behind the strongest State universities, and not till 1900, when a new period of building began, did it again occupy a creditable place among them. Mr. Aurner tells all this rather colorlessly, and with too severe an attempt to exclude an account of university personalities as distinguished from university policies. He does, however, bring out what is of general educational significance, as the fact that under Prof. Gustavus Hinrichs the State University established one of the first laboratories for the illustrative teaching of science in the country, in which in 1870-71 nearly 300 students were being instructed. For the College of Agriculture he claims, on what we should call doubtful evidence, the first experimental kitchen in the country (1876). The long and able professorship there of James Wilson, later Secretary of Agriculture, is but one of many facts of interest.

IT is the common mistake, says Sheila Kaye-Smith in her brief study of John Galsworthy in the Writers of the Day series (New York: Holt) to regard him more as an effective propagandist and social reformer than as an artist. "He is not so much a thinker spreading his propaganda by artistic methods as an artist whose excellence is grounded in ideas." Thus she thinks that his propaganda does not seriously interfere with his art, and that when he is at his best art and idea are perfectly balanced. It is on Galsworthy's extraordinary sense of situation and atmosphere that his critic bestows praise, and as a dramatist rather than as a novelist that she thinks he has achieved his success. But it must be conceded that though the drama is a fit vehicle for propaganda, it is due to this heavy freight that, with the exception of "Justice," many of Galsworthy's plays in this country have not brought him the same degree of popularity that he has won from his novels. While the novel is ill-adapted to propaganda, it is because of his consummate feeling for form that he has invested his problems of character and environment, his social types, with an appeal that has carried the novels to a wider audience. His critic awards the palm to Galsworthy's "Man of Property" and "Fraternity"; but it was "The Country House" that gave the novelist welcome on these shores.

A NEW book by A. D. McLaren, "Germanism from Within" (Dutton; $3 net), contains several noteworthy chapters, on Pan-Germanism, Militarism, the German Religious Consciousness, Child Suicide in Germany, and other subjects. A journalist by profession—he was a reporter in Germany for the Sydney (Australia) *Daily Telegraph* from 1908 to 1915—Mr. McLaren has observed German life and character from many points of view, and he now presents the data which he has collected together with the conclusions which he has drawn. There is often a certain hardness in Mr. McLaren's treatment and in his conclusion, but the reader is always aware of the great force of his logic. Mr. McLaren's chief weakness is his limited knowledge of German history. It is not true that "1848 destroyed nothing" (p. 181); the revolutions of that year destroyed German absolute monarchism and led directly to constitutional government throughout Germany. On the other hand, there can be no doubt that "German Kultur cannot absorb; it can only supplant" (p. 12). Equally true is a passage written in explanation of the independent civil status of the German army (p. 137): "Constitutionalism in Germany has not been a slow natural growth; it has been a concession, and the rulers of the country still regard it as such. Consequently it has not yet absorbed the military caste into the civil organism." "Germanism from Within" deserves a large audience.

FORMER volumes of Louis Henry Jordan's on Comparative Religion are followed by another work on the same subject, having as sub-title "Its Adjuncts and Allies" (Oxford University Press). The book is in reality a survey of the more important works that have appeared during the past ten years in the fields of anthropology, ethnology, sociology, and other subjects more or less adjacent to the history of religion. In addition to this, Mr. Jordan gives an occasional criticism of recent works on the history of religions, and a summary of articles in the proceedings of learned societies as well as of encyclopædias and of periodi-

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cal literature bearing on his favorite theme. While a great deal of interesting and important bibliographical material is thus brought together by the industrious author, there is a lack of unity about the work which detracts seriously from its usefulness. Mr. Jordan gives at times too little and at times too much. There is no special use in adding descriptive notes in regard to perfectly well-known encyclopædias and periodical publications. On the other hand, in connection with many of the works mentioned by Mr. Jordan, the notices are extended to the dimensions of long reviews, which, however, are rarely critical. A bibliography for "Comparative Religion" arranged methodically would have been very useful, just as, on the other hand, a survey of work done in the various branches of the subject during the past decades would also have been useful. Unfortunately, Mr. Jordan's work is neither the one nor the other. We do not wish to say that it serves no useful purpose. It certainly furnishes a pretty complete survey of all the important contributions that have been made in recent years, and also shows the wide range of Mr. Jordan's reading, but we should have liked a more methodical arrangement of the material. It is only proper to add that among modern students of the subject there is none who has worked more zealously and more unselfishly towards promoting intelligent understanding of the purpose of Comparative Religion than Mr. Jordan. If to-day that purpose is better understood and the subject itself more widely recognized in universities and theological seminaries, it is due to a considerable extent to the propaganda, of an earnest and dignified character, which Mr. Jordan has carried on for a good many years.

WITH its January number the *American Journal of International Law* changed publishers, the Oxford University Press succeeding Baker, Voorhis & Company. The latest issue also marks the celebration of the tenth anniversary of this valuable publication. Mr. James Brown Scott continues as its able editor-in-chief. A topic of immediate and future importance is considered in a paper by James W. Garner and in an editorial article by former Ambassador David Jayne Hill. "Compulsory Service in Occupied Territory" is the title of Mr. Garner's article, which applies particularly to conditions in Belgium since the German occupation and contains an unsparing indictment of the deportations and forced labor. Of the authorities who wrote before the war only one, Oppenheim, is found to dissent from the general concurrence as to the absolute illegality of employing the population of occupied territory in work which will assist the military enterprises of the enemies of their country. Lawrence, Holland, Pillet are all in agreement on this point. Mr. Hill, treating of the rights of the civil population in territory occupied by a belligerent, reinforces Mr. Garner's argument by citations from the articles of the first Hague Conference (1899), which were ratified by all of the Powers now at war. He finds that the obvious intention of the recognized law on the point is to declare as distinctly illegal whatever infringes the law of humanity or vitiates the requirement of the public conscience, and his conclusion is that where violations of the recognized laws occur, especially of such as are expressly stipulated in treaties and conventions, it is the duty of all the Powers signatory to the stipulations to join in vindicating the violated rules, whether individually injured or not.

IN connection with these articles, and particularly in view of recent events, it is interesting to turn back to the October number of the *Journal*, our usual review of which was withheld owing to pressure on space, and note the editorial article by Mr. Scott on the execution of Capt. Fryatt, of the steamer Brussels, on the charge that he had attempted to ram the U-33. The case raised the entire question of the distinction between merchantmen and belligerent ships and of the right of the former to resist capture, a right which was declared to be also a duty by Chief Justice Marshall in the case of the Nereide. That right is expressly admitted by one of the German authorities, Professor Tiepel, and is asserted with scarcely a dissenting voice by publicists of various nationalities. Capt. Fryatt was executed on the say-so of a single German authority, Dr. Schramm, and Mr. Scott has no hesitation in condemning the decision of the court-martial as utterly illegal in international law, whatever it may have been according to German municipal ordinances. Other papers of interest in the January issue are by Professor Woolsey on the submarine; by the editor on the history of Poland; by Charles Noble Gregory on the jurisdiction appurtenant to ships of war; by Professor Reeves on submarines and innocent passage; by Charles Cheney Hyde on the right to attack unarmed submarine merchantmen, and by Philip Marshall Brown on the recent legal controversy, before the Central American Court, between Nicaragua and Costa Rica, the complete text of the elaborate decision being also given in the number. The editorial articles are as usual timely and of great value.


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# The Sham Argument Against Latin

UNDER the above title the Classical Association of New England and the New York Latin Club have recently issued a vigorous rejoinder by Prof. C. H. Forbes, of Phillips Andover, to the disingenuous and grossly misleading attack upon the teaching of the classics in our schools by Mr. Abraham Flexner in his pamphlet "A Modern School," published a year ago by the Rockefeller General Education Board.

In that pamphlet, it will be remembered, Dr. Flexner eliminates the classics from the modern school principally, though not wholly, on the ground that the results of the teaching are so poor, as shown in the reports of examinations for college. He says:

> In the examinations held by the College Entrance Board in 1915, 76.6 per cent. of the candidates failed to make even a mark of 60 per cent. in Cicero; 75 per cent. failed to make a mark of 60 per cent. in the first six books of Vergil, every line of which they had presumably read and re-read. . . . It is therefore useless to inquire whether a knowledge of Latin . . . is valuable, because pupils do not get it; and it is equally beside the mark to ask whether the effort to obtain this knowledge is a valuable discipline, since failure is so widespread that the only habits acquired through failing to learn Latin . . . are habits of slipshod work. . . .

The complete facts are these: In 1915 the Board set twelve different examinations in Latin, of which two, those referred to by Mr. Flexner, were regarded as obsolete, and were given that year for the last time. These examinations were taken by sixty-four candidates each, with the results stated. The regular examination in Cicero was taken by 1,210 candidates, of whom 53.1 per cent. failed to get 60 per cent., a bad enough showing, but 22.5 per cent. better than the result in the obsolete examination. The regular Virgil examination was taken by 776 candidates, of whom 38.9 per cent. failed to get a grade of 60 per cent., or 36.1 per cent. better than the results of the obsolete examination, cited by Dr. Flexner. Of the 5,979 papers in Latin 41 per cent., instead of the 75 and 76.6 per cent. of Mr. Flexner, failed to obtain a grade of 60 per cent.

But this is not all. In the list of all the subjects in which examinations were set, Latin occupied the seventh place, as shown in the following illuminating table, in which the first column shows the total number of papers, the second the proportion that failed to reach 60 per cent.

| | Papers. | Per cent. |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Zoölogy | 15 | 20. |
| 2. Greek | 738 | 23.9 |
| 3. Botany | 17 | 35.3 |
| 4. Biology | 16 | 37.5 |
| 5. French | 2,362 | 38.5 |
| 6. Physics | 748 | 40.7 |
| 7. Latin | 5,979 | 41. |
| 8. German | 2,016 | 42.1 |
| 9. Chemistry | 550 | 47.5 |
| 10. Drawing | 71 | 47.9 |
| 11. Music | 18 | 50. |
| 12. Mathematics | 6,044 | 52.3 |
| 13. English | 3,389 | 56.9 |
| 14. Spanish | 30 | 60. |
| 15. Geography | 31 | 64.5 |
| 16. History | 1,966 | 68.2 |

Judging, therefore, by the results of these examinations, the modern school would not teach German or chemistry or mathematics or English or history, not to speak of some other subjects.

It might be added that in 1916 Latin made a still better showing, occupying the third place with a percentage of failures amounting to only 36.9 out of 11,000 papers, French being first, botany second, with English, mathematics, and history standing twelfth, thirteenth, and fifteenth respectively.

Classical teachers invite a consideration of the claims of the classics on their merits. But, surely, they have a right to expect that in a matter of such vital interest to the future of our country a scientific attitude should characterize their critics, especially when they are supported by such a power as the resources of the Rockefeller Board.

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*Teachers College, Columbia University*

# Reviews of Plays

IN their present bill at the Comedy the Washington Square Players include two favorites of the season, "Another Way Out" and "Plots and Playwrights," and Strindberg's drab bit of realism, "Pariah." The part which Mr. Ruben made so amusing in the first-named piece is played by Ralph Bunker, who gives additional credibility to this eccentric personality by a somewhat precious intonation. "Plots and Playwrights," with its excellent parody of the ever-popular crook play and its satirical squint at Broadway managers in general, was quite worthy of being started on a second run.

Strindberg's dialogue between the two criminals, Mr. X and Mr. Y, the former of whom had committed murder, though unintentionally, and the latter forgery, appears to better advantage when seen on the stage than when read in the study. For once a stage thunder-storm does its full share, for it is largely this which keeps the in-and-out reasoning of these two from appearing utterly exotic. The problem need not be described in all its nuances. The gist of the matter lies in the relative culpability, both in relation to society and as regards one's self-esteem, of a man who has served his time for forgery, committed in a mood of strange impulse, and a man who in anger struck down a fellow-being and accidentally killed him, but who has never given himself up to the authorities. As in the case of most of Strindberg's dramas, the reasoning in this play seems on the point of becoming keen and rational, only to fall into the bizarre. Behind it is clearly seen the author's own warped mind.

F.

# Finance

## The Rise on the Stock Exchange

AFTER nearly a fortnight of rapidly advancing prices on the Stock Exchange, with a succession of "million-share days," the movement was checked last week by a sudden and violent, though only temporary, reaction caused by what was really a routine announcement of the closing of the port of New York for a few hours. That incident in itself was unimportant; but it set people thinking. The

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stock market had been advancing on various theories—among them, continued and increased industrial activity—but there was no mistaking the fact that the impetus behind it was not primarily the support of the investing community, but the feverish activities of habitual speculators.

At the close of the week, when money rates rose on the Stock Exchange to the highest figure of the year, Wall Street discussed the tightening of that market as a result of the preparations for Government borrowing. No doubt the floating of the $2,000,000,000 war loan, and perhaps more particularly the placing of blocks of short-term Treasury bills with the banks, are having their influence on rates, but it will hardly do to overlook the influence of the Stock Exchange itself. Daily "million-share markets," with prices rising excitedly under buying of the most highly speculative sort, hardly conduce to easy money, and that is one reason why a good many prudent people have regarded the present commotion on the stock market as exceedingly ill-timed.

The obsession seems to prevail in many quarters that, since the placing of our enormous war loan will undoubtedly cause expansion in the credit account of banks, there will therefore be much more credit to spare for Wall Street speculation. The reasoning is a bit obscure, and it is pretty safe to stick to general principles, among which is the recognized fact that when an enormous shifting of capital is under way in a single operation, absorption of credit in stock-market extravagances will aggravate the money situation. What conditions will prevail in the field of bank reserves and credit facilities later in the year is as yet more or less a matter of conjecture. But an outburst of excited Wall Street speculation, at the very moment when the two thousand million Government loan is about to come upon the market, is more suggestive of stubborn blindness than of financial foresight.

Nor can it very well be denied that the stock market is confronting problems of its own. When stocks break 3 or 4 points in almost as many minutes, as they did in Friday's market, on news of no great importance except to excited imaginations, it is not hard to guess what situation the market will create for itself, if its recent tendencies continue and it should presently be confronted by some really alarming news. The steadiness of financial values, during the trying period which preceded and followed our declaration of war with Germany, was notable testimony to the strength of the country's financial and economic position. But Wall Street, in its present mood, may easily presume too far on this.

How financial sentiment will be affected by the results of the war loan subscriptions—for which the lists are to close next week—is another matter of conjecture. Possibly Wall Street will pass through a mood of despondency in the matter before it knows the facts, just as it has passed through moods of unwarranted elation. It is right that the thrifty general public should be warned, in emphatic and unmistakable language of its duty in regard to the war loan, of the absolute necessity of nation-wide subscription by small investors, and of the very large national interests that are at

(*Continued on next page.*)

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(*Continued from preceding page.*)

stake in the complete success of the operation. It is neither here nor there that many of the newspapers and individuals who are now professing alarm at the prospects of the loan are the very people who, a few weeks ago, were crying out that the $2,000,000,000 would be three times oversubscribed within a fortnight. The real matter of importance is that the loan shall not only be placed, but that it shall be rightly placed.

That means that it ought not to be taken to a large extent by banks on the basis of their own funds, and it means, on the other hand, that it ought not to be taken, even in the case of small subscribers, through borrowed money which they do not see their way clear to repay at an early date. The one process, pushed too far, would tie up the credit facilities both of banks and of the Federal Reserve at the moment when their free availability was most essential; the other would not only produce a similar result, but would gravely prejudice the chances of any subsequent war loan.

What we are witnessing, in the present "loan campaign," is a process of educating the public. Ours is a public which has heretofore been exceedingly unthrifty with its abundant savings, and which, because the "circulation privilege" from 1863 to 1913 made the national banks almost the only bidders for United States loans, has lost the habit of investing in Government bonds like the thrifty European citizen. The lesson will be learned, and learning it will tap the largest resources of any people in the world. But it will have to be taught unremittingly.

## BOOKS OF THE WEEK

### MISCELLANEOUS

Harris, F. S. The Young Man and His Vocation. Badger. $1.25 net.
Hollingworth, H. L., and Poffenberger, A. T. The Sense of Taste. Moffat, Yard. $1.25 net.
Hubbard, G. E. From the Gulf to Ararat. Dutton. $3.50 net.
Information Manual. A Digest of Current Events, 1916. Cumulative Digest Co.
James, H. The Building of Cities. Macmillan. 40 cents.
Johnson, G. L. Photography in Colours. Dutton. $2 net.
Johnson O. The Humming Bird. Little, Brown. 75 cents net.
Langdon, S. Sumerian Grammatical and Liturgical Texts. Philadelphia: University Museum.
Loeb Classical Library: The Geography of Strabo. Achilles Tatius. Seneca's Tragedies: Vols. I and II. The Greek Anthology: Vol. II. Putnam.
Lovat-Fraser, J. A. Henry Dundas, Viscount Melville. Cambridge University Press. 3s. 6d. net.
McCann, A. W. Thirty-Cent Bread. Doran. 50 cents net.
McMahon, J. R. Success in the Suburbs. Putnam. $2 net.
Magruder, E. A. American Government. Allyn & Bacon.
Morris, L. R. The Young Idea. Duffield. $1.25 net.
Moss, J. A., and Stewart, M. B. Our Flag and Its Message. Lippincott. 25 cents.
Neilson, W. A. Burns—How to Know Him. Bobbs-Merrill.
Nekrassov, N. Who Can Be Happy and Free in Russia? The World's Classics. Oxford University Press. 45 cents.
Nevins, A. Illinois. Oxford University Press. $2 net.
Patri, A. A Schoolmaster of the Great City. Macmillan. $1.25 net.
Pell, E. L. Four Feet on a Fender. Dutton. $1 net.
Pendered, M. L. The Book of Common Joys. Dutton. $1.50 net.
Pollock, H. M. Our Minnesota. Dutton. $1.60 net.
Powell, S. H. The Children's Library. H. W. Wilson Co. $1.75 net.
Priestman, E. Y. With a B.-P. Scout in Gallipoli. Dutton. $1.75 net.


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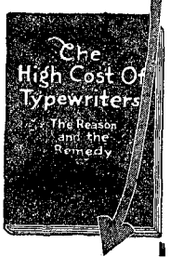


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# Summary of the News

REGISTRATION day for the draft was Tuesday. We cannot, as we write, record any estimates of the enrolment or details of the day's proceedings. Indications were, however, that the machinery would work with all the smoothness that could be expected in so gigantic an undertaking, and that the law would be enforced without serious opposition. That a certain amount of trouble would occur was expected, but the Federal authorities, supported by local forces, seemed to have the situation well in hand. There was a great deal about anti-conscription plots in the papers last week, and mass meetings attended by extreme pacifists and Socialists in opposition to the draft were held in New York and other places. All activities of the kind were carefully watched by representatives of the Department of Justice, but the number of arrests made was relatively small. The President issued a proclamation on June 1 giving warning against attempts to evade registration by withdrawal from the country.

CENSORSHIP of the press, for the present at any rate, will remain voluntary. The censorship section of the Espionage bill was again rejected by the House on May 31 by a vote of 184 to 144, and it is understood that the Administration will now abandon its ill-advised efforts to impose upon the press a muzzle which would not only prevent it from biting and barking, but also from drawing breath with any freedom.

SOME advance has been made with the Administration's plans regarding foodstuffs and supplies generally. The Gore bill, carrying an appropriation of $11,000,000, to stimulate and regulate the production of food, was passed by the Senate on Saturday of last week, amended in some particulars from the form in which, as the Lever bill, it passed the House. The situation has also been clarified by statements given out by Mr. Hoover on May 29 and June 3. The main point is that the bill in general, whatever its defects in detail, meets with the approval of the man who will be mainly responsible for administering it. In his comprehensive statement of May 29 Mr. Hoover emphasized that the drastic powers conferred by the President would be exercised only when the country's welfare demanded it, and then with the least possible hardship to the individual. He also outlined his proposals for the creation of small executive bodies to deal with various commodities and his plans for coöperation with the Allies.

AGREEMENT on the budget of $3,000,000,000 was reached by House and Senate conferrees on June 2. This releases, none too soon, the appropriation of $750,000,000 for the building of the merchant vessels which Gen. Goethals has undertaken to supervise. The War Revenue bill is still under consideration by the Senate, the proposal to substitute a tax on advertisements for an increase in the second-class postal rates having been to the fore in discussion during the past week. The Finance Committee has also recommended the elimination of the proposed 10 per cent. horizontal tariff on imported goods, and would make up part of the $200,000,000 deficit thus created by taxes

(*Continued on next page.*)

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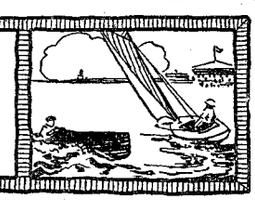

# Resort News

Only four hours by rail from Broadway, the Catskills claim more summer visitors than all the other resorts put together. Over 300,000 visitors were registered in August of last year and plans have been made to accommodate half a million in the banner month this year. Only four hours by rail from Broadway, and the vacationist is in the heart of the mountains. Fishing is already in full swing, the golf links and tennis courts are ready for use, and practically all the hotels are open.

With the fear of the order of "lights out" by the Government over, the New Jersey coast resorts have made ready for a busy season, and most of the hotels are already filling up. Deep-sea fishing has begun, and the bathing beaches will be made fool-proof this year with six-inch mesh steel nets to protect bathers. At Asbury Park, Long Branch, Spring Lake, and other places down to Atlantic City, June will see merry times.

In the world-famous Berkshire Mountains plans have been made for a busy season. The hotels are opening and many country homes of New Yorkers have been made ready for the occupants, who have already begun to arrive.

Up in the Maine woods and in the camps along the big lakes the fishermen have been busy for a month, and fine catches of trout and landlocked salmon are reported daily. The big playground covers 20,000 square miles, contains 5,000 streams, and has 1,521 lakes, and practically all are fished.

Decoration Day began the season in the resorts of Pennsylvania, at the Delaware Water Gap, Stroudsburg, Shawnee, and in Munroe and Pike Counties. The reports from the many fishermen are encouraging, and there should be ample sport for the thousands in this section. Tobyhanna Camp is always popular.

Great preparations are being made in Sullivan County for the season which is now at hand. Arrivals have been earlier than usual this year, and reports from most of the places in the county are to the effect that engagements for July and August will test the capacity of the hotels and boarding-houses.

Up at Saratoga Springs preparations have been completed for visitors, who have already begun to arrive. With the great foreign watering places closed to America by the war, the Government springs and baths of Saratoga bid fair to be thronged this year.

Skyland, Va., is open for the season, and among the guests from New York are Mrs. John J. White, Miss Anne Martin, Mrs. William G. and Miss Jeanette Sickel. Mr. and Mrs. William B. Twombly spent their honeymoon there. Reservations for July and August are coming in fast.


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*(Continued from preceding page.)*

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INVESTIGATION of the recent accident on the Mongolia, by which two Red Cross nurses were killed through the rebound of the brass cup of a shell, has led to the decision to substitute fibre for brass in the manufacture of the cups. The cause of the accident, it was stated to the Senate Naval Affairs Committee investigating the matter on Saturday, was that the brass cup was driven with such force at the time of firing that it cracked the wall of the shell and allowed fumes from the cartridge to enter the shell and explode it.

GERMAN plots of various kinds came to light last week. Secretary Lansing revealed the fact that before the declaration of war there was an attempt by Germans to involve this country in difficulties with Great Britain or France through the use of ships ostensibly of American ownership. This information was given by Mr. Lansing to the Interstate Commerce Committee in support of the Trading-with-the-Enemy bill recently introduced by Chairman Adamson. Dispatches from Washington of June 2 declared that the State Department had discovered a German plot to obtain possession of the island of Margarita, off the Venezuelan coast, for use as a submarine base. Three alleged German spies were arrested in New York on Sunday on suspicion of communicating with the enemy.

IT is difficult to epitomize the news from Russia with any degree of assurance, or even to disentangle the strictly local news from that which intimately affects Russia's allies and the rest of the world. As interpreted by dispatches and headlines during the past week, the former has not been encouraging. We have had a picture of anarchists parading the streets of Petrograd clamoring for the commune and for war on capitalists and the downfall of authority; of an independent revolution in Kronstadt which disowns the Provisional Government; of drunkenness, rioting, and robbery. The picture is not improved by reports of the arrest of the Grand Duke Nicholas, who, so far as available information goes, has throughout the war and the revolution played a thoroughly patriotic part. On the other hand, Professor Shatsky, who speaks for the Provisional Government in this country, in an interview in the New York *Times* on Sunday, assures us that these things are only ripples on the surface and points out, what is well understood, that the most sensational news, though true, may be only a fraction of the truth. Another part of the truth, less emphasized by headlines, seems to be that M. Kerensky, though the subject of much hostility in Petrograd, is making good his undertaking to bring the army back to some kind of control, while the soldiers themselves, through their delegates at Petrograd, are demanding munitions. Meanwhile, we welcome the news of the arrival of Mr. Root and the American Mission at a Russian port. Mr. Henderson, Labor member of the British War Cabinet, arrived at Petrograd last week.

AS for the influence of events in Russia in other countries, the formula "no annexations and no indemnities" has been productive of a deal of trouble. In the first place, the note which President Wilson has addressed to the Russian Government, presumably on the general question

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of war aims, had been unaccountably missing for some days, and only turned up in Petrograd on Monday. The question of its publication is, as we write, in abeyance. Secondly, Socialists in various parts have not only found their imaginations fired by so plausible-sounding a formula as "no annexations and no indemnities," but they have conceived the brilliant idea of starting local chapters of the Council of Workmen's and Soldiers' Delegates. This was proposed at a mass meeting in New York last week and again at a meeting of extreme pacifist and Socialist organizations which assembled at Leeds, England, on Sunday.

THIS brings us to the Stockholm Conference, which is really two conferences. The first one, attended by delegates of the Central Empires, while awaiting the arrival for the second of the Russian and Allied delegations, considerately gave advance notice of its views on peace on May 30. In addition to providing for no annexations and no indemnities, these, when analyzed, are seen to leave Alsace-Lorraine with Germany, Italia Irredenta with Austria, and Prussian Poland with Germany, and to contemplate the peaceful achievement of Germany's Mitteleuropa. To the second conference will go, besides the Russians, a delegation from England, whose departure is sanctioned, apparently in the hope that it will offset German influence with the Russians, by the British Government. The French Government, on the other hand, declines to grant passports to the would-be delegates.

KAISER WILHELM has officially congratulated Hindenburg on the conclusion of the Allied offensive on the western front; so we suppose that ought to settle the matter. It has happened, at any rate, that during the past week there has been a general deadlock, marked principally by the repulse of German counter-attacks. Heavy artillery fire in Belgium may, however, be the prelude to an offensive in that quarter of the front. British attacks at Lens at the beginning of the week were repulsed. There has been a lull also on the Italian front, although some further progress in the direction of Trieste has been made.

SUBMARINES or mines in the week ending May 20 again accounted for eighteen British ships of more than 1,600 tons. Only one of less than that tonnage was sunk, while seventeen vessels were unsuccessfully attacked. Arrivals were 2,719; sailings, 2,768.

THE speech of Emperor Charles at the opening of the Austrian Reichsrat on May 31 could hardly be expected to contribute much towards elucidating the situation in the Dual Monarchy. Germany can find comfort in the nice things His Majesty found to say about his "faithful German ally," and those of liberal tendencies are at liberty to take what satisfaction they choose in the promise of "free national development" within the Empire after the war. The appointment of Count Andrássy as Hungarian Premier was announced on May 30.

CHINA has developed internal troubles of her own. Last week eleven provinces revolted from the Government at Peking, setting up an independent authority and appointing a dictator. Brief dispatches, as we write, indicate that the difficulties may be composed.


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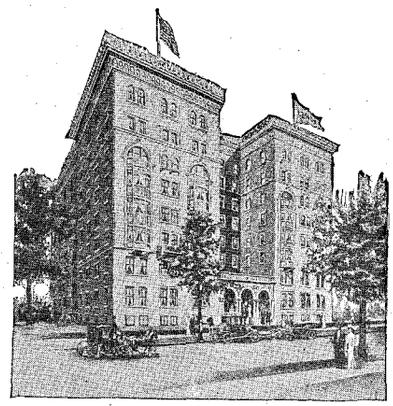

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